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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 971

01/30/2023 Authored by Fischer; Hanson, J.; Curran; Howard; Feist and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Housing Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to housing; appropriating money for housing discrimination testing.

1.3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.4 Section 1. HOUSING DISCRIMINATION TESTING.

1.5 \$500,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2024 from the general fund to the commissioner
1.6 of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to make grants to nonprofit organizations to
1.7 investigate and report on housing discrimination based on race, national origin, disability,
1.8 or familial status by conducting fair housing testing statewide. The grant funds may be used
1.9 to recruit and train testers and analyze test results to evaluate evidence of housing
1.10 discrimination in the rental or purchase of a home, apartment, or other dwelling. The
1.11 organizations receiving grant funds may convey test results to state or federal agencies that
1.12 receive and have the authority to act on fair housing discrimination complaints or otherwise
1.13 use the information to advocate for the rights of the prospective renter or purchaser. The
1.14 organizations receiving grant funds must provide a preliminary report to the chairs and
1.15 ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over housing
1.16 policy and finance by February 15, 2024, and a final report by February 15, 2025, identifying
1.17 the organizations receiving grants and how the grant funds were spent, the number of
1.18 investigations or tests conducted, the types of housing tested, location of tests, any other
1.19 activities undertaken, and, if known, the outcomes of the cases.