

February 8, 2022

House Transportation & Local Government Committee Colorado General Assembly

RE: HB22-1051 – Modify Affordable Housing Tax Credit

Dear Members of the House Transportation & Local Government Committee:

My name is Kathy Smith, and I am a member of the League of Women Voters of Colorado's Legislative Action Committee. I am writing in support of HB22-1051, on behalf of the League's Legislative Action Committee.

The League is a nonpartisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Our membership spans the state of Colorado with 19 local leagues operating in several regions of the state.

The League supports policies to provide a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family. Across our state, there is a severe shortage of affordable rentals. One quarter of Colorado's rental households are severely cost burdened, spending more than half of their income on housing. Severely cost burdened households are more likely than other renters to sacrifice necessities, such as healthy food and healthcare, to pay the rent and to experience unstable housing situations.

This bipartisan bill will increase the annual allocation and extend the time of Colorado's Affordable Housing Tax Credit. This increase and extension will result in nearly \$1 billion in additional tax credits that CHFA can allocate over twelve years. These modifications will help CHFA address our state's housing needs across Colorado.

We urge the committee members to vote YES on HB22-1051. Thank you for your consideration of this important bill.

Respectfully, Kathy Smith, Volunteer Lobbyist League of Women Voters of Colorado Legislative Action Committee 1410 Grant Street, Suite B-204 Denver, CO 80203 303-863-0437