August 19, 2022

Clerk of Supreme Court Attention: Deputy Clerk-Rules P.O. Box 1688 Madison, WI 53701-1688

RE: Petition 22-03 Eviction Record Retention

Dear Honorable Justices,

Habitat for Humanity La Crosse Area's mission is to support safe, affordable housing for low-income families in the Coulee Region.

With this mission and vision, we are writing on behalf of Legal Action in support of Petition 22-03 related to reducing the length of time eviction records are held. Through our Housing Advocacy Committee, we work to educate the public on housing issue while working together with other housing advocates to eliminate barriers for low-income families.

At Habitat for Humanity La Cross Area, we have seen the impact that eviction records have had on our residents.

When completing home visits for the families we serve, we see first-hand the limited options families with evictions on their records have. Unsafe, unhabitable housing becomes the only option. This makes it difficult for families to provide adequate shelter for their children and hinders families from gaining traction into more secure housing, including homeownership.

Therefore, we urge you to adopt Petition 22-03 to reduce the harm of eviction records by reducing the length of time they are held from 20 years to 1 year in most cases. Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to comment on this proposed rule.

Sincerely,

Kahya Fox Executive Director