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Dear Members of the House and Political Subdivision Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill No. 1513 which would require municipalities to provide adequate notice to homeowners before mandating sidewalk repairs adjacent to their properties. This measure is a necessary step toward ensuring fairness and financial preparedness for affected residents.

Currently, homeowners in many municipalities bear the financial responsibility for maintaining sidewalks adjacent to their properties. While this requirement is well-established, the lack of adequate notice places an undue burden on residents, many of whom are unprepared for the significant financial impact of sudden repair costs. A recent experience involving a friend of mine underscored this issue. They were given less than 60 days to replace a section of sidewalk in front of their home, leaving them little time to secure the necessary funds. This situation is not unique and can create financial hardship for many homeowners, particularly those on fixed incomes or with limited savings.

The proposed legislation would introduce a reasonable and necessary safeguard by ensuring that homeowners receive ample notice before being required to complete costly repairs. Providing homeowners with an extended notification period allows them the time to budget, explore financing options, and seek potential assistance programs if needed. This common-sense measure would promote financial stability while still upholding the responsibility of maintaining safe sidewalks for public use.

I urge you to support this legislation and advocate for its passage. Ensuring transparency and adequate notice for residents facing costly sidewalk repairs is not only fair but also fosters a more cooperative and equitable approach to infrastructure maintenance.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your leadership on this issue and look forward to seeing progress on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Amber Shea