To Josh Sande,

Please accept this statement as part of the written public testimony in support of HF1930: End-of-life option established for terminally ill adults, to be heard tomorrow 1/25, in the House Health Finance and Policy Committee.  Unfortunately, I am not able to attend in person.

I am just one of many who have lost a family member and who carry a horrible memory of the last moments - a memory that I would not want family members to carry for me.

Nor do I want to be powerless in the face of my own death, should I be faced with a terminal condition.

Nor would I want a loved one to be placed at legal risk, should I be denied that power and choice and need assistance to die with dignity.

Nor would I want a loved one to be denied this option for him or herself.

This bill would establish a procedure by which terminally ill people would have the choice to die with dignity.  It is thoughtfully and carefully written, to avoid abuse and enable personal freedom and responsibility.  This option gives people great comfort - such comfort that, in many if not most cases, they choose not to exercise it -- each individual human being needs and deserves to have this choice.

It should be the terminally ill person who is able to choose whether to exercise this option or not, not a scant minority of legislators who make a decision to deny it to all.  Minnesotans deserve better than that.

Please support HF1930 to enable Minnesotans to die with dignithy and urge your colleagues in the MN Senate to do the same.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Deborah Zvosec