Mr. Sande,

Please share my comments concerning HF1930 with members of the Health Finance and Policy Committee.

I am a woman in her 70’s who is fit, healthy, competent and fully engaged with life. Despite my good health and good fortune, I am keenly aware that life itself is finite and that at any moment, given my age, I might find myself with a terminal illness. It could be next year. It could be 20 years.

When I do become ill, I want the right to determine when and how I will die. I want to participate in the decision fully with the support of my doctors and family. This is fundamentally an issue of body autonomy and is, in fact, THE MOST fundamental issue of body autonomy. As human beings we have a right to say when enough is enough. I do not want to spend the last months of my life wasting away in pain, dehydration, enduring endless medical interventions or lacking the quality of life that I deserve.

It is well past time for Minnesota to join other states in allowing medical aid in dying so that those who wish to can leave this life in peace and compassion.

Please don’t put this off another year. It is such a vital piece of legislation and should not be delayed further.

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