

January 24, 2024

Dear members of the Minnesota House of Representatives Health Finance and Policy Committee,

I am writing to ask you to oppose HF1930, which would involve the cooperation of healthcare providers with the intentional termination of human life.

I am the mother of a beautiful little girl who brings much joy to the world. Her big smile and outgoing personality have led many people to say, "She just made my day."

My daughter was born under less than ideal circumstances and has a disability. My husband and I were blessed to provide foster care for her, and we subsequently became a family through adoption.

The lives of children like my daughter are now in severe danger in the state of Minnesota. The last legislative session passed laws allowing for newborn babies to be left to die if those entrusted with their care make the decision to do so. Now, persons with disabilities in the state of Minnesota are in danger, as physician-assisted suicide is being promoted.

My daughter has overcome hurdles that most people will never need to cross. She has worked hard in therapies, endured surgeries, and joyfully strives to keep up with the children in her class at school. Her life is a blessing.

Allowing physician-assisted suicide in our state is a step down the slippery slope of ending the lives of people deemed unworthy to live. The vocation of a physician is to heal, not harm. I want my daughter and others like her to know that they are safe while living in the State of Minnesota.

Several "safeguards" have been touted in the bill. However, we may we learn from past experience that it is likely only a matter of time before conscience protection, mental acuity, and short-term terminal diagnoses are no longer restrictions. Abortion was once touted as "rare" or only needed in cases of rape, incest, or the immediate life of the mother. Now, abortion in Minnesota is called a "reproductive right" with virtually no restrictions, safeguards for fetal pain, or reporting requirements.

Please allow all Minnesotans to know that our state is a safe place in which to live, one that values every human life.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Hoeffler
Duluth, MN