

January 25, 2024

House Health Finance and Policy Committee Room 5, State Office Building 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd Saint Paul, MN 55155

## **Re: Testimony in Support of HF1930**

Dear Rep. Liebling and members of the House Health Finance and Policy Committee,

The League of Women Voters Minnesota (LWVMN) supports HF 1930, the Minnesota End-of-Life Options Act. In 2022, LWVMN concurred with LWV Utah's "Death with Dignity" study that provided information about laws in the five states which allowed terminally ill persons to request physician aid in dying, and a history of death with dignity. With a <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> majority of delegates voting on behalf of our local Leagues, we adopted the following position statement in support of laws ensuring end of life options:

- Legislation that grants the option for a terminally-ill person to request medical assistance from a relevant, licensed physician to end one's life
- Legislation that includes safeguards against abuse for the dying and/or medical personnel

The strong membership support for end of life options suggests that HF 1930 aligns with our basic principles of equal access to healthcare and privacy in healthcare decision making.

We urge you to ensure that Minnesotans also have the freedom to make decisions about the end of their life according to their own values and priorities by supporting HF 1930.

Thank you for your public service.

Sincerely,

Sam Strenkens

Sam Streukens, Civic Engagement Director - League of Women Voters Minnesota <u>sstreukens@lwvmn.org</u> - 546 Rice Street, #200, St. Paul, MN 55103