

Good morning

Chair Becker-Finn, ---- members of the committee

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My name is Thaddeus Pope

I am a law professor ---- at Mitchell Hamline School of Law  
in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

I have published over 300 articles ---- and two books  
on end-of-life decision making.

I speak in favor of the bill ---- in my personal capacity.

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I address H.F. 1930 ---- sections 8, 10, and 13.

These sections address immunities, ---- penalties, ---- and the effect of  
the MAID on wills and contracts.

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These sections are common

in the MAID statutes of 10 other states

These sections are also common

in the more than 20 bills

now being considered by other state legislatures

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Furthermore, these three sections parallel

those in the decades-old Minn. Stat. 145C.

That statute addresses healthcare decisions and advance directives.

Like H.F. 1930, 145C addresses actions taken by healthcare professionals that end patients' lives at their request.

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It is pointless to authorize a healthcare option  
if providers are unwilling to participate.

So, 145C grants the same immunity to encourage providers to follow patient wishes.

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Finally, H.F. 1930 authorizes a range of criminal and civil penalties. That is wholly appropriate.

But it is important to note that there has never been a criminal prosecution or medical malpractice lawsuit  
concerning MAID  
in over 15,000 cases in the past 26 years.

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Thank you