

April 3, 2024

Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

On behalf of 600+ funeral directors and 250+ funeral establishments, the Minnesota Funeral Directors Association (MFDA) strongly supports the inclusion of the Transfer Care Specialist language in Article 1, Sections 1 through 20 of HF 4247.

The creation of the Transfer Care Specialist position, and authorization to remove a dead human body from a place of death is a necessary update to Minnesota's mortuary science laws.

Based on the initial fiscal note for the original language in HF 2509 (Huot), the Department of Health determined that Transfer Care Specialists would be required to pay an initial registration fee of \$894, and an annual renewal fee of \$554. These fees are drastically out of line with the other fees in the mortuary science section, as the mortician's license is set at \$200, and an intern's fee is just \$75, despite a far more MDH-involved application & registration process.

MFDA is continuing to work with the Department of Health on this issue, and we anticipate an updated fiscal note to reflect the current language, as well considering MFDA's input.

It is MFDA's sincere hope that the updated fiscal note shows a reasonable fee.

MFDA supports the inclusion of the Transfer Care Specialist language because it is necessary to provide a new option to funeral establishments in carrying out the critical and sensitive duty of removal from the place of death, while maintaining the high standard of care and professionalism that Minnesotans deserve.

MFDA thanks the authors: Representatives Huot, Schomacker, Backer, Franson, Lislegard, Perryman, Altendorf, and Dotseth for leading on this important issue.

Thank you to Chair Liebling for including the Transfer Care Specialist language in HF 4247, the Scope of Practice and Licensing Policy Omnibus.

Thank you,



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