In am writing in enthusiastic support of HF 1930. I had planned to attend the upcoming hearing in person, but COVID has changed that plan. I hope this email will be included as written testimony.

I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2020 and have been through 3 rounds of chemotherapy in the last 4 years. My cancer is incurable. I am destined in the not too distant future to die from the metastatic cancer. This makes me extremely invested in the progress of this legislation.

As I am confronted with the stark reality of my early death and the likely torturous final months, weeks, days that I face, I desperately wish that I had the ability to choose my ultimate fate. I am not terribly afraid of death itself, but I am terrified of the likely long and painful process of dying. I strongly believe that anyone confronted with a documented and certain terminal illness has the right to determine how and when they want their life to end.

Medical science can keep me alive longer than nature would have me live. Humans have already intervened in extending my life unnaturally. I am grateful for that extra time, but it will run out. It does not seem unreasonable or against God’s already interrupted plan to have a death that is painless and peaceful at the time of my choosing. We treat our pets more compassionately than we treat our fellow humans. No one should be forced to endure needless suffering. Everyone facing terminal illness should be able to choose their own fate.

The safeguards against abuse that are in this bill will effectively prevent any slippery slope of unwarranted euthanasia. Some may look at Canada and think that this bill will result in a similar outcome. It will not. This bill is based on others in the US that have been used effectively and without abuse.

I want to die at home. I want to die with minimal suffering. I want to be near my family. If Minnesota does not pass legislation that will allow me the dignity of choice, I my find myself faced with the choice of moving away from all that I know and love to exercise my choice in another state that will show compassion and respect my wishes, perhaps Oregon.

There are a lot of people like me in Minnesota. A very small percentage will send you testimony. Please know that my thoughts are the thoughts of many more. Some, like me, will be facing these decisions very soon. This legislation cannot languish for another year. Relief of suffering and compassionate death choices are needed now.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Clubb

Lakeville, MN