

March 29, 2023

The Honorable Tina Liebling
Chair, House Health Finance and Policy Committee
477 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for palliative care provisions in HF 2930 DE1 amendment

Dear Chair Liebling and members of the House Health Finance and Policy Committee:

As Minnesota organizations committed to ensuring the best possible quality of life for patients facing serious illness and disease, we are writing to support the Palliative Care Advisory Council provisions in the DE1 amendment to HF 2930.

Palliative care delivers better health and improved well-being for patients and caregivers while reducing the need for acute care. The inclusion of \$44,000 in annual funding for the Council (pg. 24 of the markup sheet), the elimination of the Council's sunset date (pg. 291 of the DE1 amendment), and term adjustments for Council members (pg. 279 of the DE1 amendment) will improve the Council's ability to promote these objectives.

Respecting your committee's need to balance various priorities, we will continue to advocate for funding for a Department of Human Services study on the fiscal, medical, and social impacts of creating a palliative care benefit for Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare enrollees. Should this funding not be feasible this session, we hope we can work with you and other stakeholders to promote the objectives of this study by other means.

Thank you for your time and support of palliative care. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Dana Bacon, Senior Director, State Government Affairs at The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, at 612.308.0479 or dana.bacon@lls.org.

Sincerely,

A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
ALS Association
Alzheimer's Association
The Arc Minnesota
Children's Minnesota
Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota
Health Care Agent Literacy Project
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Mayo Clinic
Minnesota Alliance for Ethical Healthcare
Minnesota Leadership Council on Aging
Minnesota Medical Association
Minnesota Network of Hospice and Palliative Care
Minnesota Rural Health Association
National MS Society
MetroMN Oncology Nursing Society