

March 2, 2023

RE: SF997/HF1019

Dear Senator Ron Latz and Representative Sandra Feist,

My name is Mary Kriese and I support the Bill SF997/HF1019 allowing claims of injury and death to survive the death of the decedent to promote quality elder care.

My father was admitted to the hospital for blood sepsis and life threatening bone infections in both of his feet/calves as a result of pressure wounds that were not properly treated in a four-star care facility. Because of the painful and severe infections that had deteriorated while a resident at the care facility, he lost both of his legs below the knee. My sister and I had entrusted the care facility to properly care for our dad. However, there was nothing "proper" about the care he received - he was neglected causing excruciating pain and suffering.

My dad pursued his claim, hoping to promote better care of elderly and to prevent others from experiencing what he had gone through at the care facility. While it is a lengthy process, we believed the facility should be held accountable for not properly treating the pressure wounds. Unfortunately, my dad passed away during this time and his claim for damages of pain and suffering did not survive. Based on the current law, there is no incentive to provide treatment and to resolve claims. Instead, the current law promotes limiting treatment and "waiting out" claims until the individuals die. It is both saddening and hard to understand that Minnesota is the **only** state to not have claims survive the death of an individual.

I strongly urge your support of SF997/HF1019; it is critical to improving the care of elders. Please help to prevent others from experiencing horrific pain and suffering due to negligence as my dad did. Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Kriese