

## IN SUPPORT OF MINNESOTA HF3786/SF3566 - BILL TO AMEND MINN 152.125 INTRACTABLE PAIN

March 22nd, 2022

*Submitted by Cammie LaValle with permission of all signors.*

First and Last Name	If Minnesota resident, in which city do you reside?	What option best describes you?	Willing to testify if given opportunity	Comment (Optional) - Why are you supporting this bill and requesting a hearing?
Nancy Heiser	Albert Lea	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>Since Oct. 2018, when I was titrated off of 50% of my pain medication, my life has been filled with constant pain from CRPS. I am no longer able to enjoy life as I did before the cut when I still had pain but it was manageable 80% of the time. We now must pay for housekeeping, some shopping/errands as my husband has cancer and caring for him as well as myself is barely manageable. I have always been compliant with all the rules regarding my pain medication. I feel patients like me, are not addicts but we have been punished, intentionally or not. I have, from time to time, been made to feel less of a person by medical staff and have been forced to have injections and treatments that accelerated my pain and caused pain flares lasting up to 10 days for which no treatment was offered. It is my belief that providers have had an equally difficult time with the restrictions, knowing how to treat intractable pain but unable to do so. Please, I beg you to stop this unnecessary abuse of the rights of patients to be adequately treated for chronic, intractable pain.</p>
KARRINE STORBY	Albert Lea	Pain Patient	No	<p>Legitimate pain patients are suffering and not being treated appropriately because of false CDC report a few years ago. WE are NOT the problem but are suffering the consequences...</p>
Edward Sallee	Albert Lea	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	<p>It morally and ethically wrong to categorize all pain sufferers with those who abuse. Don't punish people who need pain management</p>
Michael Brue	Alvarado	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	<p>I know individuals in Minnesota and other states with intractable pain, and as a communications professional who helps people with serious health challenges and disabilities in another state and who has followed this issue for multiple years, it's clear that Minnesota's existing statute, while likely well-intended, created new and in many ways enhanced existing health problems for numerous innocent individuals and their families, with often devastating consequences. Legislation is long overdue to correct wrongs that were created with the passage of earlier legislation, and the Minnesota Intractable Pain Bill clearly is a strong and necessary step in that direction.</p>

<b>Denesa Lutterman</b>	Apple Valley	Healthcare professional	No	I am a RN as well as a chronic pain patient with a rare disease. Not only can I NOT find a provider that knows what my condition is or how to treat it but because of it's rarity, was given option to switch to Suboxone or be cut off existing opioid regimen that allowed me to have somewhat of a life. Being that Suboxone is still controlled, can still overdose on and is harder than opioids to get off I said no. Was immediately cut off and have not had any medical care since! I give up! My quality of life is horrible and nobody cares!!
<b>William Grabosky</b>	Apple Valley	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	To support my wife who is an intractable pain patient, and to educate the public that a one size fits all approach does not work for everyone.
<b>William Morris</b>	Apple Valley	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Diane Granowski</b>	Apple Valley	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	
<b>Merrilee Bliss Lawler</b>	Apple Valley	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	Out of concern for those with intractable pain
<b>Sheila Grabosky</b>	Apple Valley	Pain Patient	Yes	My name is Sheila Grabosky, and I have NeurogenicThoracic Outlet Syndrome (nTOS) and I live with intractable pain. My disease affects only 1% of the population. In 2013, I traveled to St. Louis, MO for decompression surgery which consists of removal of first rib, pec minor release, and removal of the mid and anterior scalene muscles. I had to travel out of state, as there are only a few skilled surgeons who can provide treatment for nTOS. I have a care team in Minnesota which consists of my PCP, a psychologist, physical therapist, and a pain management clinic. It is very difficult each month to receive my pain medication from a licensed and certified pain specialist. My prescription has to be ordered. My insurance causes issues with not only allowing me to pick up my prescription, but providing adequate financial support. My medication costs me about \$600 a month to have somewhat a quality of life. My medication therapy is not a one size fits all. It has taken years to find the right medication and dosage to provide me enough relief. I have other modalities I use in addition to medication - physical therapy, dry needling, trigger point injections, and individual mental health support. All of these modalities along with my pain medication therapy, gives me some quality of life and not have pain dictate how my day will be. Preventing patients who live with intractable pain, adequate access to opioid analgesics which supercede 90 MME's, is harming and preventing a quality of life to function. Please allow the intractable pain bill to move forward with approval from the House of Representatives. It's the right thing to do for the people who live with daily incurable pain. Respectfully submitted, Sheila Grabosky
<b>Pam Clark</b>	Appleton	Pain Patient	Yes	Please help all pain patients
<b>Crystal Sticha</b>	Arden Hills	Advocate/Activist	Yes	Because people need a real pain relief

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<b>Michelle Buck</b>	Arlington	Pain Patient	No	Pain patients need their medication back. They are suffering. I want my life back.
<b>David Buck</b>	Arlington	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	My wife is in pain and needs to get her life back. She cannot suffer much longer
<b>Michelle Buck</b>	Arlington	Pain Patient	No	I am intractable pain patient who needs are not being met. I am tired of watching my life go by when my suffering could be relieved.
<b>Jalene Roberts</b>	Austin	Pain Patient	Yes	I am a chronic pain patient and it has been a complete nightmare to have the medication that provides me with quality of life and allows my pain to be controlled enough to participate in my own life and be a part of my family. The pendulum had swung way too far and we need to balance things back out so the patients who need medication for horrifically painful diseases and surgeries can safely and responsibly get the medication they need !!
<b>Jennifer Bergherr</b>	Becker	Pain Patient	Yes	I am supporting this bill because as a pain patient I have had my medications (that were helping my quality of life) forcefully tapered down because of no fault of mine. I am now suffering everyday with pain when there is a medication/dosage that helps my quality of life.
<b>Kathryn nelson</b>	Belle Plaine	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	It is in the best interest of patients
<b>Debra morgan</b>	Bethany	Pain Patient	Yes	Pain needs to be addressed
<b>Kris mcombs</b>	Bethel	Pain Patient	Yes	Because I am a pain sufferer and I have been left to “deal with it” and it has made me suicidal at times.
<b>Erica Wilder</b>	Bloomington	Pain Patient	Yes	Chronic pain patient & narc meds restricted following major surgeries. Narcotic pain meds well controlled via my pain team means less ER visits & tolerable standard of living. Active (physical & mental) citizens are more productive and cost less for insurance companies & government. The unrealistic restrictions is encouraging painful rationing, stress, unnecessary pain has lead to no hope, reduced life capabilities and mental health complications, including suicide.
<b>Brishen Hampton</b>	Bloomington, MN	Pain Patient	No	

<b>Barbara Fox</b>	Boulder	Healthcare professional	Yes	Pain relief is a basic human right being denied pain patients due to the illicit fentanyl crisis. Legitimate medical patients need access to strong opiate based pain meds which are the only medications that are effective for most intractable pain patients. Please return ethics and compassion to pain care.
<b>Sandy McKenzie</b>	Braham	Pain Patient	No	Minnesota must make changes to support the needs of pain patients harmed by the CDC guidelines and subsequent policies.
<b>Penelope A Brown</b>	Brooklyn Center	Pain Patient	Yes	Address the suffering of those who have been hurt
<b>Jennifer Brown</b>	Brooklyn Center	Pain Patient	No	Please support this bill. My quality of life has been severely affected. The fear in my doctor from overly attacking the Opioid problem. Has compromised his care of myself. Our good doctors need protection and we need Opioid therapy in our tool box. My ability to participate in life is gone now. I have so much left to give to this world. Please don't ignore our daily suffering! For me it is 365 days a year. I desperately need your help on this matter. Without my health I have nothing. Please, we absolutely need a hearing! I was cut off for no reason in the fall of 2019. I have been needlessly suffering every single day since! It is absolutely torture! This suffering has been eating away at the beautiful life I had built. I gave up everything I loved just to try to make it through work. Now I'm having to sell off my business. I have so much to give if my pain is controlled. I deserve any chance at a life worth living that I can get. Please help give me my life back! Thank you!
<b>Brent wannerlind</b>	Brooklyn Center	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable	Yes	To many intractable pain patients are being left out to die in pain and need our help! Breaks my heart to see my loved ones suffer in agony
<b>Rachel Schermann</b>	Brooklyn Park	Pain Patient	Yes	For Emily Mote, who killed herself this last week, and all the others before her.
<b>Andrea Noyola Hernandez</b>	Brooklyn Park	Healthcare professional	Yes	The time for change is past due.
<b>Harry George</b>	Buffalo	Pain Patient	Yes	I suffer from debilitating failed back pain and neuropathy pain from diabetes in both hands and feet. Extremely painful at all times without let up. Basically house and bed bound. My life has been drastically changed and essentially destroyed progressively since 2012. I am no stranger to pain with trampoline and football injuries in high school. Stabbed in forearm taking a blackbelt test in college. The pain I have now doesn't come close to comparing and will not let up even for a minute without the meds. I have tried so much other with no success. Without the meds I would be street searching or dead. I only take as my doctor says. That's it. Please keep people like me in mind. Thank you.

<b>Lori Anderson</b>	Buffalo Lake	Pain Patient	Yes	I suffer from intractable pain and chronic pain and there are times that opioids are the best choice for relief. I have always used them responsibly and should not be forced to live in pain because of other peoples misuse. It is torture to suffer without relief for weeks on end.
<b>Pam LaValle</b>	Burnsville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	
<b>McKenna Dennstedt</b>	Burnsville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Julianna Thomas</b>	Burnsville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Dan Kealey</b>	Burnsville	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	As an elected official on the Burnsville City Council, we held a special mtg for 5 hours and heard testimony by chronic pain sufferers and chronic pain doctors. These folks are the experts we need to listens to, not attorneys, not politicians.
<b>Kallie LaValle</b>	Burnsville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	
<b>Pat LaValle</b>	Burnsville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	
<b>Sara Schmitt</b>	Burnsville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	I feel this is a well researched bill. I trust my friends & family's experience with seemingly never ending pain. I am also a service provider in the salon industry. I hear stories often from clients & fellow colleagues of their experiences, as well. I have complete faith that this bill can help many people while also addressing & defining the concerns that may go with it. Thank you.
<b>Judy Ellingson</b>	Burnsville	Caregiver	No	I have a very good friend with sevete pain.cThis bill needs action to help with the pain they are in!!
<b>Pat LaValle</b>	Burnsville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	
<b>Cara Schulz</b>	Burnsville	Advocate/Activist	Yes	

<b>Dr. Emmett Smith</b>	Carlsbad CA	Healthcare professional	Yes	As a physician, I saw that pain patients were conflated with drug addicts, mistreated by doctors and insurance companies alike and their mental health was questioned. Recent months have shown multiple solid physical reasons for pain and suggest new treatment vectors. Until those arise, pain patients have to be specifically protected to ensure that their rights are respected. Thank you.
<b>Leah Amerson</b>	Champlin	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	Yes	Supporting a friend who has chronic pain
<b>Linda Anderson</b>	Clearwater	Pain Patient	Yes	I'm supporting this bill because people like me, who responsibly take these medications are continuing to be ignored, discouraged from seeking treatment and talked down to, on a daily basis. The idea that a doctor cannot write a script for medication that will help, is terrifying. A family member broke his tibia and was offered Tylenol in the ER..... for a broken leg. That's not only torturous, but devastating to think that in the future.... that's all you'll be offered. Why? Because docs are in fear of the government shutting them down, for offering pain relief. The government doesn't belong in my exam room.
<b>Sheila skaj</b>	Cloquet	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	Because no person should have to suffer in pain ,you should have the choice Only you know how much pain you can take and nobody seems to care.
<b>Patrick R. Doyle</b>	Cokato	Pain Patient	Yes	Pain patients need to be treated equal to any other patient.
<b>Susan Schwartz</b>	Cottage Grove	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	It is time to allow Doctors the ability to treat their patients in the manner they see fit. A good Doctor know the pain level of their patient and has the ability to determine the proper level of pain management.
<b>Dana Miller</b>	Council Bluffs	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	Yes	I suffer and live a "Tortured" life now as a intractable chronic pain patient , that am unable to get the schedule pain medication I was prescribed by a wonderful Doctor that was also the Medical Examiner here where I live and I was told by another Doctor that heard me mention my Doctors name, said to me, "Stick with Dr. Blair!" I was in medical school with him at the University of Nebraska and he finished in the top three in our class." Dr. Blair was busted by the DEA and can no longer prescribe opioid pain medication. This is so appalling since the AMA has already stated as "CONCLUSIVE FACT!" "There is No Addiction to opioids if there is legitimate pain and taken as prescribed." I even watched filmed documentation of the AMA studies on this,I believe it aired on a 60 Minutes broadcast. In the study seniors in a facility, I believe it was in England , were given heroin in their tea at tea time for "One Year." After consuming the heroin for a year they were cut off, "not tapered off", cut off cold after taking heroin in their tea for a year, and Not A One had any adverse reaction of any kind! SO WHY ARE MILLIONS OF US BEING TORTURED NOW!?! Torture IS , A Violation Of Our Human Rights! Right here in the good 'ol USA. God Bless America? Maybe in days past..But certainly Not Now! What I personally stae now, "We have a Rat Snake government and Doctors are Scum to me now." To do this to it's most vulnerable citizens, the elderly.seniors,the disabled..how can any decent human being think this is OK.

<b>Jennifer Haller</b>	Crookston	Pain Patient	Yes	Extreme overreach and inequality for patients with chronic pain
<b>Marcie Anderson</b>	Darwin	Pain Patient	Yes	We had a shooting at our local clinic and that person shot 5 people before killing himself because they refused to help him with pain management. When I heard about the shooting I knew exactly why cause that is how they treat me but it was confirmed the following day. Please do something. It's not ok to treat people like this. This pain is not my fault and doctors have the remedy but refuse to give it out anymore.
<b>Louellen Peters</b>	Delano	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	Yes	I have friends who suffer greatly
<b>Ann M Anderson</b>	Delano	Pain Patient	Yes	I have hEDS. When my opioids were lowered to half of what I was taking and my pain level continues to slowly increase, my life was taken away from me. On occasion when I took extra oxycodone I told my provider what I had done. I didn't ask for early refills. I didn't have to tell her because she didn't ask. By being open and truthful I was then labeled with opioid use disorder. I have never abused medications. I am almost unable to walk now due to neurogenic claudication. All I want is my life back.
<b>Michelle Stifle</b>	Duluth	Pain Patient	Yes	I am intractable pain patient.
<b>kim katra</b>	Dodge Center	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Brenda Shoberg</b>	Duluth	Pain Patient	Yes	I am a chronic pain patient and have been negatively impacted by past legislation
<b>Howard lacy</b>	Duluth	Pain Patient	Yes	Need hip replacement but Drs can't do it until I'll loose weight. I can't lose weight due to the pain of trying to walk. I can't take NSAIDs cause I'm I'm prednisone. That leaves me only Tylenol for pain. If Tylenol worked I wouldn't need a hip replacement. I'm a Veteran too.

<b>Brenda S</b>	Duluth	Pain Patient	Yes	Chronic pain patients cannot receive proper pain relief in Minnesota today. There have been tens of thousands of pain patients in Minnesota who have been abruptly tapered off opioid pain management over the past several years, and tremendous suffering. There are very few doctors left who are willing to prescribe opioid pain medications, even to patients in dire need of pain relief. Chronic pain patients in rural areas often have to drive hours to see a doctor. Many hospitals/clinic now have blanket policies that prohibit their doctors from prescribing opioid pain management despite the fact there is evidence it isn't nearly as harmful as some people promote. Opioid pain management isn't significantly contributing to the "opioid crisis", it's illicit fentanyl and heroin laced with fentanyl which are causing the vast majority of overdoses and overdose deaths. By taking away safe pain management options from patients, many patients are choosing other methods of pain control including alcohol and illicit drugs which is actually adding to the overdose crisis.
<b>Scott S</b>	Duluth	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	My wife is a chronic pain patient and has had her opioid pain therapy force tapered by her pharmacy insurance company, CVS Caremark. I support this bill to help her and all other chronic pain patients so they can get the care they deserve. Please help end this terrible suffering!
<b>Dan L</b>	Duluth	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	Please end the suffering of chronic pain patients!
<b>Sue S</b>	Duluth	Pain Patient	No	I had surgery in 2021 and my pain wasn't controlled at all. I'll never have surgery again no matter what!
<b>Steve S</b>	Duluth	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	I support this bill. My wife has experienced severe pain that wasn't controlled well at all.
<b>Michael Palmquist</b>	Dundas	Pain Patient	No	Need more thought and balance . My chronic pain is brutal even with the help of pain medicines. Not sure how I would live or cope without them
<b>Veronica Palmquist</b>	Dundas	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Rachel Schwake</b>	Eagan	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Kathryn A. Krisko-Hagel</b>	Eagan	Pain Patient	No	



<b>Jason Michaelson</b>	Eagan	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	Yes	
<b>Roberta George</b>	Eagan	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Melisha West</b>	Eagan	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	Yes	
<b>Rick Lewis</b>	Eagan	Pain Patient	Yes	Because I have chronic pain
<b>Amy Walker</b>	Eagle Bend	Pain Patient	Yes	I have suffered pain from a non cancerous tumor which was pushing on my spinal cord. No I am suffering from degenerative disk disease and looking for a 2nd back surgery in less than a year to have 2 rods with 9 screws on each side put in my upper back.
<b>Heather Campaign-Robish</b>	Excelsior	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	Yes!
<b>Sarah Browne</b>	Excelsior	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Sandy Bedeaux</b>	Farmington	Healthcare professional	No	My sister passed away from a long, painful battle with cancer on 2019. Numerous times, she was admitted to the hospital for unmanaged pain and even with her terminal cancer diagnosis it was a challenge to get appropriate pain control. Without her family advocating for her, she would have suffered unnecessarily.
<b>Natalie Hayward</b>	Farmington	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Skylar Gohr</b>	Farmington	Healthcare professional	No	
<b>Sienna Stucke</b>	Farmington	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Erin Monahan</b>	Farmington	Pain Patient	No	

<b>Alison Kral</b>	Farmington	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	
<b>Katie Gislason</b>	Farmington	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Heather Vallevand</b>	Fergus Falls	Pain Patient	Yes	Because I suffer with Intractable pain and I fight for my rights all the time due to this opioid crisis! I will never stop fighting!!!
<b>tara kauck</b>	Forest Lake MN	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	I see my spouse suffering. It took us 3 years to get proper care which led to irreversible damage on his body.
<b>Faith Hunt</b>	Foreston	Pain Patient	Yes	I have CRPS and have exhausted every option available for pain relief. I'm a wife and a mom and it's so hard to be anything when in the amount of pain I feel on a regular basis.
<b>Michelle Thiess</b>	Former Minnesota resident - Cambridge	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	My cousin lives with intractable pain. I live with migraines and that isn't even the tip of the iceberg compared to what she goes through.

<b>Sharon Panasuk</b>	Fridley	Healthcare professional	Yes	
<b>Anastasia Peasley</b>	Fridley	Pain Patient	Yes	I'm a patient that is diagnosed with Intractable Pain Syndrome.
<b>Lisa O'Brien</b>	Ft Ripley	Concerned citizen	Yes	Living in pain that cannot be controlled or treated is inhumane to any living being.
<b>Gloria Hilgers</b>	Glencoe	Caregiver	Yes	My daughter is a chronic pain patient. She get very little help from any medical facility. he suffers so much, can not work. SO SAD!!!
<b>Lisa Alsleben</b>	Glencoe	Pain Patient	No	I feel the doctor should be the one to determine the dose a patient should be on, not the government!
<b>Mindy McRae</b>	Grasston	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Dennis Lutterman</b>	Ham Lake	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	My daughter has rare disease and is suffering from these Dr's opioid practices

<b>Misty Ashley</b>	Ham Lake	Pain Patient	Yes	My chronic pain was controlled, I used to be able to do more things, enjoy more things, go more places, clean more, less days miserable but now the pain clinic has lowered my medication to be in compliance with the new 90mg limit in pain medication and now my pain is unbearable I can't do as much anymore, don't want to go anywhere I know I'll be in too much pain. Im just miserable. I've never failed a monthly or weekly or random Ua in 20 years. I've always taken my medication properly, never been off on my count. It's just not fair. Going from being comfortable and my pain managed to miserable and in too much pain is a horrible!! Not even an animal should have to live in this much pain when there is medication that can and does help its just not given to help anymore, just barely help. It's very sad.
<b>Lauren Nava</b>	Harlingen	Pain Patient	Yes	As a chronic pain patient who relies on opioid medication therapy to work full-time I feel it is important for us to be separated from addicts.
<b>Joseph DeVries</b>	Harris	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Brett sharp</b>	Hastings	Pain Patient	Yes	As a nurse, friend, advocate, and patient, I believe that we need to be treated by professionals as pain patients with intractable pain, not seekers, not addicts, etc. The law must be neutral and inclusive to protect us and allow treatment.
<b>Jessica green</b>	Hawley	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Lisa Murphy</b>	Hayfield	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Eileen Levin</b>	Hopkins	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	Chronic pain destroys lives and they deserve to get the meds they need. I can't even function with the occasional headache so I just can't imagine living with chronic pain. It isn't no right to deny them because sometimes drugs are abused. I also, support legalizing marijuana for similar reasons

<b>Sheila Nelson</b>	Hopkins	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>I am an intractable pain patient with several failed spinal procedures &amp; surgeries along with only marginally successful hand/arm surgeries. I can barely walk &amp; have limited use of my hands. Anytime I must walk or use my hands the pain intensifies to the point I wonder what the point is in being alive only to suffer so greatly. I'm also raising a severely disabled child &amp; rarely am I able to be the mom I WANT to be if only my body would cooperate. I've also lost the ability to enjoy all the hobbies I used to, which has subsequently caused depression.</p> <p>The rare times I've been prescribed an opiate I was able to actually function like a normal human being. But they're nearly impossible to get, despite the fact that in 30 years I've never abused ANY of my prescriptions which include amphetamines &amp; benzodiazapines. It makes no sense to me that it's OK for me to physiologically rely on anti-depressants for depression caused by pain, rather than just treating the pain!! Please pass this bill so intractable patients can have some quality of life!</p>
<b>Vanessa Percy</b>	Hopkins	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>It's not just intractable pain itself but that individual patient care has been forgone from the equation. Not to mention the doctor-patient relationship. At bare minimum, those with intractable pain deserve protection.</p>
<b>Ann-Marie Kennedy</b>	I don't live in Minnesota, but look to relocate there.	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>We are not meant to suffer when there are interventions to make us comfortable. For me to have any quality of life, I require narcotics, muscle relaxants, and anxiolytics. I'd wish this pain on no one. I have a rare disorder of a connective tissue disorder, Ehlers-danlos Syndrome, and it is quite painful and debilitating.</p>
<b>Deborah Withrow</b>	International falls	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>Im an intractable pain patient and I was cut off my opioids that gave me quality of life. Its been very difficult to live in pain with out them. Just not right. Im disabled and am refused treatment and a disabled RN</p>
<b>Susan Kemp</b>	Inver Grove Heights	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>I am a concerned citizen who also suffers from excruciating facial nerve pain. If one of the senators or a close family member suffered from pain like this I guarantee this bill would be passed.</p>
<b>Marta Nightingale</b>	Inver Grove Heights	Advocate/Activist	No	
<b>Sarah Monn</b>	Inver Grove Heights	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	<p>I understand that some people abuse medications but there are some people that truly need it to get through the day.</p>
<b>Kay Lehto</b>	Inver Grove Heights	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	<p>People should not have to suffer when they are in pain</p>

<b>Keyara Rodgers</b>	Inver grove Heights	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	A friend in pain
<b>Erin Potter-Rank</b>	Inver Grove Heights	Advocate/Activist	No	
<b>Calvin Morgan</b>	Inver Grove Heights	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Ted Johnson</b>	Inver Grove Hts.	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	I sympathize greatly to those who suffer with pain, and hope we can help them somehow. It's also heart wrenching to hear of suicides...and those that are ready to give up on life. It could happen to any of us or our families.
<b>Ross Hebeisen</b>	Isle	Pain Patient	No	When one lives in pain for which there is no cure we deserve to be treated with proper pain management and respect. We should have the right to quality of life
<b>Alexis Erwin</b>	Kensington	Pain Patient	Yes	Yes pass this bill to let pain patients like myself get the care I need since the start of the regulations it has made it more difficult to get any care even if it isn't for pain cause once a provider sees you are a pain patient of any sort they instantly assume your a drug addict and because of that logic they have ignored issues such as my twisted nearly unattached ovary for six months that nearly killed me. Please stop making it one size fits all kinda care we all take to meds differently and most chronic pain patients need pain meds to function.
<b>Dan LaValle</b>	Lakeville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	My wife Cammie LaValle is disabled with severe intractable pain from multiple diseases, conditions, osteoporosis and severe spine issues. She has rare, incurable diseases with no FDA approved or indicated treatments and is on Palliative Care. Opioid analgesics help reduce her pain, increase her function and allow for her to have a better quality of life. She doesn't have breakthrough medication anymore and has been tapered, even when Palliative Care is exempt. It's inexcusable what is happening to people like my wife in Minnesota. It's inhumane. This bill would ensure my wife gets individualized healthcare and not a one size fits all, in addition to stop her from getting force tapered more to meet an arbitrary MME. I have to care for her at her worst and although I will continue to do this as her husband, seeing her suffer when her pain is undertreated, is devastating to me and our entire family. If she loses access to the medications she does have, she will be bedbound and just exist in life. It's cruel that the state of Minnesota has let the pendulum swing so far, even after knowing how much harm it has caused people with a valid medical necessity for these medications. Take action and protect the patients and physicians. If she was your wife? Or your sister, daughter or Mom? Or you? Would it matter then?

<b>Sharon reibly</b>	Lakeville	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	Yes	One of my friends is suffering and she needs and deserves help
<b>Mary Kuna</b>	Lakeville	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Mary B Kusske</b>	Lakeville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	because its the right thing to do and people should not have to live in pain
<b>Carol Wentzel</b>	Lakeville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	Because the person I am signing for has been in terrible pain for many many years.
<b>Jon Dahl</b>	Lakeville	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Sharon Howell</b>	Lakeville	Healthcare professional	No	
<b>Rick Hibbing</b>	Lakeville	Pain Patient	Yes	Intractable pain patient that cannot survive without my opioids.
<b>Sue Hibbing</b>	Lakeville	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	Supporting my disabled husband.

<b>Cammie LaValle</b>	Lakeville	Pain Patient	Yes	Intractable pain was left out of CDC Guidelines, MN Guidelines and OPIP policies, including Quality Improvement Program. Patients in Minnesota with intractable pain, which is severe, unrelenting, difficult to treat, disabling and includes incurable rare diseases and conditions nicknamed a "suicide disease" due to pain severity and high prevalence of suicides in those patients; are being forced tapered from medically necessary opioid analgesics even with the benefits outweigh the risk. It doesn't matter if the patient is doing well, has reduced pain, increased function and a better quality of life or that these patients have exhausted all other treatments and never misused medication. Patient centered care, based on unique, individualized healthcare needs is disappearing. It's force tapers of opioids solely to meet a recommended pre-determined MME dosage in a guideline or policy. There is widespread patient abandonment and the abrupt discontinuations the FDA warned NOT to do, is becoming more frequent. The pendulum swung TOO FAR. Suicides increasing and there are patients abandoned, turning to alcohol and illegal drugs for pain management. The overdose crisis, mainly involving illegal drugs and polysubstance has only gotten worse. There needs to be responsible prescribing, but we are heading to no prescribing, which is far from responsible. Prescribers are being threatened based on MMEs, without any other context. It's come down to an arbitrary MME, which lack any sense of patient centered care. It's an absolute healthcare fail. Minnesota can ensure people with SUD or OUD get the care they need without throwing away and dismissing people suffering with intractable pain. We can't blatantly neglect one population in order to save another. or condition. This bill will start to right some wrongs and at the same time, ensuring patients are monitored and aware of risks associated with opioid analgesics. I'm disabled from intractable, incurable pain. I'm on Palliative Care as well. I responsibly take my medications along with non-opioid medications and therapies. I'm actually exempt from guidelines being on Palliative Care, but that doesn't matter in Minnesota. I was force tapered anyway due to pressure the state is putting on my specialist. If I am tapered further, I will not be able to do the simplest of daily tasks. I've been completely bed-bound before and I never want to go back to that. I deserve the opportunity to live my life and not just exist in it. It's inhumane that Minnesota has allowed needless suffering to become the norm. There's a desperate need for this legislation to stop the patient harms. Minnesota can prevent suicides and patients going to the streets for pain control. here are humans behind the collateral damage. Please see us, protect us and protect the providers who still dare to treat us. One day it could be you or your loved one. Please take action now.
<b>Brian Hill</b>	Laporte	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Sagan Lara</b>	Lauderdale	Pain Patient	Yes	Because I am in intractable pain. I voluntarily went through a reduction of my opioids a full 1/3 and 4 years later, I'm still grappling with the effects of my pain not being managed. Insurance used to pay for my pain coverage. Now I'm blessed to be on the MN Medicinal Cannabis program. But as it's considered "experimental" and isn't federally legal, I'm responsible to pay for the outrageous costs of trying to get the same level of relief and coverage I used to be entitled to. I'm a model opioid patient with long term impeccable medication hygiene, my Dr, the clinic's Opioid Team, and my medical history can attest. There was absolutely no medically indicated reason to reduce my medicine for pain coverage other than fear of 2016 guidelines as a response to the opioid crisis. My mental health team finally put an end to the 18 month torture process and my Ramsey County Mental Health case manager in person, with my therapist via telephone begged for them to stop. My mental health suffers greatly when I'm in unrelenting and uncontrolled pain. I was lucky my Dr listened to my Mental Health team. But even 4 years later, I'm at able to tell the vast difference between what kind of function and relief I had before verses now. This issue is a matter of life and death to me and so many of my friends. Please have human decency and compassion.
<b>Lesha johanneck</b>	Litchfield	Pain Patient	Yes	I am a chronic pain patient. I follow laws and abide by my pain contract. But I shouldnt feel like a criminal and shouldnt be scared to ask for help because of fear of being treated like a criminal. I just want to be able to deal with my pain and try and have a normal family life without suffering daily. I have pain that wont ever go away. People with amputations have crutches, wheel chairs me I have pain meds please dont leave me to suffer.

<b>Kerry Sheehan</b>	Lowell	Pain Patient	Yes	I'm a patient in a state that took it so seriously they've tried to stop using some pain meds during surgery. So I woke up in surgery and had no way to stop the horrifying pain because I was under a paralytic. The repercussions of politicians making decisions about medications and lowering opiates means they're trying to save on them during surgeries and post-op. This is horrendous and everyone should be invested in fixing this issue because anyone can suddenly need surgery and that could be you waking up under paralytic being operated on when you are fully aware.
<b>Connor LaValle</b>	Mankato	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	many pain patients need the option to reduce their misery. give people the better/easier life they deserve.
<b>Stephanie Perri</b>	Maple Grove	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Rachel Halverson</b>	Maple grove	Caregiver	Yes	
<b>Victoria Rocha</b>	Maple Grove	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	To help bring awareness and educate decision makers regarding chronic pain sufferers like my nephew.
<b>Randy Johson</b>	McGregor	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Patrick Woltersen</b>	Medford	Pain Patient	Yes	we in the community that live with constant pain need to be heard and have the right to quality of life. Medications are a part of that
<b>Denesa Lutterman</b>	Mendota Heights	Pain Patient	Yes	I have a rare pain causing syndrome that took years to finally figure out what it was. Now finally knowing what it is, the fact it's rare has caused many more issues. To even find a doctor who knows what Nutcracker Syndrome is, let alone treat it has proven near impossible. Pain medicine has been my only life saver and they are not only cutting it down, they're trying to label everyone with opioid use disorder and get switched into Suboxone, Buprenorphine & methadone. That switch is just as damaging but nobody cares as long as you aren't taking opioids. Problem is this, there's no medicine to help people to get off those either so it's a whole new problem starting! Frustration is maxed out here!
<b>Pamela Stein</b>	Mendota Heights	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	A friend with intractable pain educated me about the bill.



<b>Aimee Watson</b>	Merrifield	Pain Patient	Yes	Myself, my mother-in-law and my sister-in-law are all chronic pain patients. Of the three of us, two of us are permanently disabled and one of us has a rare disease.
<b>Deanna Upchurch</b>	Middlesex	Pain Patient	Yes	Because I'm tired of suffering and seeing others suffer, because you all want to punish addicts, but it's affecting us, the ones who suffer from daily excruciating pain.
<b>Arlene Pyka</b>	Millelacs	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>Because chronic pain patients deserve the right to be treated properly &amp; have some quality of life. The stigma that surrounds the chronic pain patients is sadly heartbreaking &amp; unethical as we get treated like dirt from every aspect there is. I have suffered personally since 2000 from a work injury &amp; have been put through the ringer on countless occasions. This pain has ruined my life, lost out on my kids growing up &amp; bow grandkids. I have not been able to even have a somewhat normal life w/ fiancé. I have to pick &amp; choose what I can do on a day to day basis. That means making plans for anything is impossible.</p> <p>Until recently pain advocacy wasn't found &amp; has been a great help for me.</p> <p>How would you feel if this was you or a family member of yours? What if it was your child? Pain is very hard to deal w/ but every single day of your life is another story. I don't even know what it's like to not have pain. If I didn't have such a supportive understanding family I wouldn't be where I am today. If my injury would of been dealt w/ properly I could of had some what of a normal life. I'm almost 50 &amp; feel like a 80-90 yr old most days w/ more pain &amp; health issues because of what I've been out through &amp; original injury ignored for so many years.</p> <p>Do our lives matter? Have you ever spent a day w/ a chronic pain patients? Have you ever had to ask for help w/ daily activities? One realizes real quick how a "normal person" takes a simple day for granted. May you all find it true &amp; see what we have been through.</p>

<b>Arnold Feldman MD</b>	Minneapolis	Healthcare professional	Yes	As a retired pain management, I support this bill.
<b>Rory O'Brien</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Angie Priebe</b>	Minneapolis	Caregiver	No	So people with chronic pain can get the meds they need to be comfortable.
<b>David wagner</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	Yes	No one should suffer in pain
<b>Sharla Stremski</b>	Minneapolis	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	Yes	
<b>Tina Sanz</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	Yes	As a person with intractable pain who relies on a medical therapies including opioid analgesics, this bill is a must. My doctors have been intimidated by the State Department of Health into reducing medically prescribed medication to sustain quality of life.

<b>Anita Newhouse</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	Yes	This bill interests me from multiple perspectives. As a pain patient, I have first hand knowledge of the current treatment environment for chronic pain patients with progressive, congenital disorders. I am aware that terminology matters. As a parent and main caregiver of children with the same disorder, I'm aware of implications for this across an age spectrum. I'm educated as an occupational therapist and thus, I understand the framework for pain treatment models and have experience assessing outcomes. As a MSW graduate student, I have both studied and engaged with patterns of dependence and current interventions. I am also aware of the policy environment concerning opioid access, the available data on it and the political football it's become. Perception-often based on unfounded beliefs and biases- drives much of the discussion at the Capitol but individual rights must be based on the available facts and their impact on real Minnesotans. Politics is always about the push pull of perception vs facts. Real Minnesotans depend on the will of elected representatives to care enough about the facts. Details and language matter as much as perception. My hope is that Minnesota's legislators will care enough to further hone the laws that gravely impact Minnesotans with the disorders, diseases and conditions that leave them unable to fully function in society due to pain.
<b>Maria Null</b>	Minneapolis	Advocate/Activist	No	I support this bill because pain patients deserve to be protected by laws and policies that guide humane care.
<b>Catherine Heilmann</b>	Minneapolis	Healthcare professional	No	
<b>Kristina Gronquist</b>	Minneapolis	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>deborah Zanish</b>	Minneapolis	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	
<b>Amanda Jansen, Director of Public Policy</b>	Minneapolis	Healthcare professional	No	
<b>BILL KOCKE</b>	Minneapolis	Caregiver	Yes	There is no need for someone living with chronic pain to have to suffer when pain medication can restore at least some of their quality of life.
<b>Laurie Engel</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	Yes	I am an intractable pain patient. I live with pain that can only be controlled with opiate pain medication. The lives of the chronic pain community have been seriously harmed by restricting our access to the medication that works best for us. The overdoses are driven by illegal substances not prescribed pain medication. This war on pain patients needs to stop. Our lives are just as valuable as the lives of addicts yet no one seems to care that our community has been stripped of a needed and necessary medication because someone other than us chooses to abuse it. Last I read alcohol is legal and it kills way more people per year than opiates do.
<b>Sara Sauser</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	No	

<b>Dawnelle Hesse</b>	Minneapolis	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Sam Warner</b>	Minneapolis	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Kathryn Wegner</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	Yes	Because as a pain patient myself I know how important it is to have pain medications available just to live my life with some normalcy. I understand how hard it is to get a dr that will agree to prescribe pain meds. I also have dealt with a lot of bias and negativity from the medical community regarding my pain. And although I never misuse or abuse my medications (one of which is an opioid) I'm constantly under-medicating myself and suffering with more pain than I need to on a daily basis because I'm fearful of having my meds reduced or taken away.
<b>Katira Lutterman</b>	Minneapolis	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	My mother is a patient of intractable pain who has been mistreated and misdiagnosed for years. Doctors do not understand her rare disease and therefore are not able to provide the quality care that she deserves, nor are they willing to. Something needs to be done about the way doctors handle patients with intractable pain.
<b>Olivia Paikos</b>	Minneapolis	Advocate/Activist	No	
<b>Julie Jeatran</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	Yes	Intractable pain needs to be treated not stigmatized.
<b>Laurie Engel</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>TINA SANZ</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	Yes	This bill is essential to cure the unintended consequences of previous opioid legislation. People with intractable pain - Cancer patients, people with inoperable medical conditions, people in Palliative care and Hospice, and so on, are living lives in pain, unable to have quality of life. The misapplication of recommended guidelines for doctor prescribed opioid medications to people with intractable pain must end.
<b>Amanda Dobbs</b>	Minneapolis	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Lawrence Silber</b>	Minneapolis	Healthcare professional	No	
<b>Michael</b>	Minneapolis	Healthcare professional	No	I work daily with patients who have intractable pain. They will benefit from this bill becoming law.
<b>Jennifer Evans</b>	Minnesota	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	Why wouldn't I support it? There's a gap in the law presently and the most vulnerable people are being left to suffer. Even if it needs to be tweaked as we go on, this is a start!

<b>Jen daluge</b>	Minnesota	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Kennedy Hauge</b>	Minnesota	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Royd Hanson</b>	Minnetonka	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>James Bullington</b>	Minnetonka	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	Tired of watching my wife suffer every day needlessly.
<b>Skylar Bullington</b>	Minnetonka	Pain Patient	No	Because I have a rare genetic disorder that causes Intractable pain. I'm 21 years old and have already spent three years of my life in daily pain. At some point, I'm going to need something other than Ibuprofen and I want the decision about my treatment to be between my doctor and me.
<b>Amber Bullington</b>	Minnetonka	Pain Patient	Yes	I've had Intractable pain for 20 years. My pain was managed with opioid medications along with alternative treatments for 15 years. My doctor abruptly tapered me completely off of high levels of opiates in six weeks, which nearly killed me. It's been 3 1/2 years, and my pain is worse than ever and I've developed several other health conditions due to untreated pain. I have Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, a rare genetic disorder.
<b>Carly Sedacca</b>	Minnetonka	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Lisa Schierman</b>	Minnetonka	Pain Patient	Yes	I have pulmonary, lymphatic, neurosarcoidosis, and a very rare airway sarcoidosis along with the amazing related chronic illnesses with the worst care in my life
<b>Ali Lee-O'Halloran</b>	Minnetonka	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	I live with chronic pain and know the effects of chronic pain on my quality of life. A life free from pain is a basic human right.
<b>Nancy Fursetzer</b>	Minnetonka	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	My 40-year-old son had a full active life when taking his meds. Now he stays home suffering 24/7 and considers suicide. I quit my fulltime job to be his caregiver so we struggle financially.
<b>Rick Hyatt</b>	Montecello	Pain Patient	No	

<b>Lori Triden</b>	Montgomery	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Randi Ehindero</b>	Monticello	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	I am supporting because I have a really good friend who has intractable pain.
<b>Rachel Nieves Brunotte</b>	Monticello	Concerned citizen	Yes	
<b>Krista Sederberg</b>	Monticello, MN	Healthcare professional	No	Because such discrimination should not be tolerated and people need relief.
<b>Kyssie Wilson</b>	Moose Lake	Healthcare professional	No	Support for my patience and their rights to appropriate medical care with respect to pain management.
<b>Sarah</b>	Mound	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Lorrie Dahl</b>	Mounds View	Pain Patient	Yes	To help people and to get heroin removed from the opioid stats
<b>Rose Levin</b>	Minneapolis	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	Because no one should have to suffer chronic pain because some people at abuse opioids rom other drugs. Their pain and suffering is real and they deserve relief.
<b>Kasey Hadd</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	Yes	QUALITY OF LIFE IS SO IMPORTANT CORRECT USE DOES NOT EQUAL ABUSE!
<b>Bruce Digre</b>	N/A	Advocate/Activist	No	Letting people suffer with pain so other people can make money off them is bas evil.
<b>Jessica Layman</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	Yes	I've lost everything because of the CDC and DEA taking away my ability to access needed medication. Please help chronic pain patients to live with dignity.
<b>Sharon Schweitzer</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	Yes	I'm supporting this bill because I am a pain patient and the CDC & DEA have gone to far in putting their "feet" inside my Doctors office. Last I recall my Doctor is the one who had gone to medical school and has the knowledge to help all their patients without having to look over their shoulder, or worse yet be put in jail!
<b>Judith Botamer</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	No	Yes, I'm a suffering pain patient from Texas and hope that all states can adopt similliar bills. So many of us are suffering so badly at the hands of fearful doctors who have had colleagues harassed by boards and government agencies. This is inhumane treatment of pain patients, many whom are veterans! Please adopt these changes. Thank you.
<b>Rebecca mcree</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	No	To help this patient

<b>Talia Loos</b>	N/A	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Pam Iles</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	Yes	As a long time CPP I have known the difference between my pain being managed with proper medication and trying to live without the proper medication. I weighed the pro's and con's and chose to live my life, however; without proper pain medication I have no life.
<b>Holly Vanostrand</b>	N/A	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	I'm supporting this bill because I have family that suffers every single day and they should be able to get the care and medicine they deserve.
<b>Zoporia Carter</b>	N/A	Advocate/Activist	Yes	
<b>Kimberly Davis</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	Yes	I'm a 52 year old Sickle Cell Warrior that has seen little to no advancement in the treatment of pain management for the disease.
<b>Yolanda Lewis</b>	N/A	Caregiver	No	I am a parent and primary caregiver of a precious young man with sickle cell anemia. Presently, a universal cure is not available to prevent nor treat intractable pain outside of opioid analgesics. While we wait for a cure, we cannot continue to allow individuals like my precious son suffer present and long term damage. Thank you.
<b>Ashley Rodgers</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	Yes	This protection for patients and their providers is long overdue and much needed.
<b>Jill Thomas</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Darla Rush</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	Yes	I am a chroni Autoimmune pain patient.
<b>Anjolene Boster</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Mary Mattio</b>	N/A	Pain Patient	Yes	Humane pain care is imperative. I have intractable pain disease and without opioid pain mgmnt I would not be alive. Too many have died without proper care.
<b>Cassandra Stein</b>	New Brighton	Pain Patient	No	I suffer everyday from chronic pain, and have for a number of years. Because of the opioid epidemic, I was never offered direct pain relief. Living like this is inhumane.
<b>Lawrence Brown</b>	New Brighton	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	I have watched my sister and mother waste away from vibrant, energetic, happy people to miserable, unhappy people that have nearly lost the will to live after their pain medication was taken away. Every day is a struggle for them and I watch them lose the urge to live.
<b>Jennifer Young</b>	New Hope	Pain Patient	Yes	I have Ehlers Danlos. Years of subluxing joints have left me in a LOT of pain with Osteoarthritis in many joints. DDD. Muscles aches every single day.

<b>Peter Dietz</b>	New Prague	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Sam Poquette</b>	New Ulm	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Carrie Ewing</b>	None	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Ruth Koznecki</b>	None	Pain Patient	No	The pendulum has swung too far to one side. Pain medication should be allowed for chronic pain patients.
<b>Christina Wilson</b>	None	Pain Patient	Yes	To support the pain community
<b>Constance Minkoff</b>	None	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	Because people are suffering
<b>Sonia Alvarez</b>	None	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	My husband suffered from intractable pain for 47 years and eventually died a horrible suffering.
<b>Jim Miller</b>	None	Pain Patient	Yes	As a pain patient for 30+ years, we need this bill to protect pain patients. Hopefully this bill will help fellow pan patients get the relief they require to live their daily life's with relief.
<b>sue adams</b>	NORTH MANKATO	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Catherine Warner</b>	Northfield	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Kelly Costello</b>	Northfield	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Judy Curtis</b>	Not applicable	Pain Patient	Yes	

<b>Danny L. Brown</b>	OAKDALE	Pain Patient	Yes	I have intractable pain. I have PAD in my legs that have been surgically repaired, but it has come back. Also I have had 3 lumbar fusions and also neck surgery from my cranium to my first thoracic level. I suffer from pain through out my entire spine and my legs, which need more surgery to correct.
<b>Debra Brown</b>	Oakdale	Pain Patient	Yes	Hello, My life, living with intractable pain is not a life I thought I would never have. I have had 2 lower back surgery's with fusions and metal rods implanted left me unable to sit on the floor to play with my grandchildren. I have a disease Schumann kyphosis, curvature of the spine. Everyday it has my attention. I have endured epidurals injections, nerve blocks. I can't stand long, no longer cook or clean. Hired a cleaning lady to keep up in the home. I have had neck surgery due to a bad fall off a ladder have metal plate and fusion, need another surgery because of a bulging disk. Which is out of the question. I have Emphysema stage 4 and have 1 partially collapse lung along with CHF. I no longer garden, cook, clean the best part of my day is going to bed. We no longer socialize, go out to eat. Going to the mailbox is a chore. I have never had a dirty UT, missing medications as thy are locked up, never asked for more medication. I also had Brain surgery for 2 Brain Aneurysm's still have horrible headaches. I have other conditions degenerative disk disease. I support this Bill, people shouldn't have to suffer and have fear that there medication may be taken away. This is not living.
<b>Sam Micheletti</b>	Onamia	Pain Patient	Yes	VA patient without any effective pain management now. I doubt this bill will get anywhere with The Rummeler/PROP zealots fighting it, but it's worth a shot if we can get a few extra people to see some sense. Even if it passes I don't expect anything to change, but maybe a few doctors will feel less bullied by 'guidelines' that are enforced as laws, and be able to help someone have a bit of their life back.
<b>Megan Thomas</b>	Otsego	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	



<b>Kimberly Smith</b>	Pensacola	Pain Patient	Yes	Chronic pain patients have been thrown under the bus due to Misinturrpation of the 2016 guidelines. I'm a Chronic pain patient from a botched surgery. And an RN. Chronic pain can happen to anyone. The American Medical Association has said that the CDC has harmed pain patients. Chronic pain patients are suffering inhumanely and cruelly because of the 2016 CDC guidelines.
<b>Sue and Steve Morem</b>	Plymouth	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	I know people with intractable pain and it controls and ruins their life. It just isn't right when drugs do exist that would help.
<b>David Perri</b>	Plymouth	Pain Patient	Yes	As a chronic pain patient I can attest to how opioids are uniquely qualified to treat chronic pain and are a very crucial part of chronic pain management.
<b>Michael Perri</b>	Plymouth	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	This is an absolute necessity. My son and wife are both people with severe pain. This is a must do if you are a legislator that cares and has compassion and wants to do the right thing.
<b>Samatha Flynn</b>	Plymouth	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	I support those living with Sickle Cell Disease and their access to the appropriate care needed!
<b>Jena Bevens</b>	Plymouth	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	Yes	N/A
<b>Vicki truax</b>	Prior lake	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	My friend has a unique illness and needs this to pass for her pain management
<b>Kim Coyle</b>	Prior Lake	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	Supporting a friend living with pain who needs this bill passed.
<b>Alfred Anderson</b>	Prior lake	Healthcare professional	Yes	I am a retired pain physician, who had the opportunity to witness the suffering of patients dealing with intractable severe chronic pain . I always felt threatened by various agencies as to how to prescribe appropriate medication for intractable pain.

<b>Dana Makinen</b>	Ramsey	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Karon Revell</b>	Ramsey	Pain Patient	Yes	Pain patients, including myself are suffering due to the ILLEGAL drug problem. It is time to separate the two. We have two problems here. And hurting pain patients is not helping the Illicit drug crisis. Please hear us!
<b>Ashley Corvin</b>	Red Wing	Pain Patient	Yes	I support this bill because I'm a chronic pain patient. Without access to proper medical care which includes the use of pain medication I would not be employable and my quality of life would dramatically suffer. No chronic pain patient would choose a life of pain. Taking away a tool that can help improve their quality of life is cruel. The decision to use pain medication should be a decision left to doctors and their patients.
<b>Barb Fitz</b>	Renville	Pain Patient	Yes	I have pain from RSD that can not be cured or effectively treated. Unfortunately opioids were the only medicine that even filled the pain as needed. I hated taking them but they were a necessity at times when the pain was too much to bear. It's on those days life doesn't seem worth living. But I struggle and carry on anyways with the hope that tomorrow will be a better day.
<b>Greg Taylor</b>	Richfield	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	To help a dear friend!!
<b>Deborah Lurie</b>	Robbinsdale	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Gregg Lurie</b>	Robbinsdale	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	
<b>Rae Blaylark</b>	Robbinsdale	Caregiver	Yes	On behalf of the sickle cell community
<b>Lauren Ranghelli</b>	Rochester	Pain Patient	Yes	Bodily pain and it's consequential suffering is real. A truly civilized society does not force its ill and injured citizens to languish in pain.
<b>Brian Newcomer</b>	Rogers	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	
<b>Jennifer Gordon</b>	Rogers	Pain Patient	Yes	Trying to get pain medication so that I could participate in life ruined my family. My pharmacist told me I shouldn't be crawling on the floor. The current system is terrible. I have many stories like most intractable pain sufferers.

<b>Kristina Schweigert</b>	Rosemount	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Jamie Rotegard</b>	Rosemount	Advocate/Activist	No	
<b>Cynthia Cunnien</b>	Saint Francis	Pain Patient	Yes	I live with chronic pain everyday for the last 30 years
<b>Jessica Forga</b>	Saint Michael	Pain Patient	Yes	I support this bill because I have many diagnoses with chronic and intractable pain and I want to be heard and treated like a patient with a genuine medical issue instead of being labled as a drug seeker.
<b>Lori Welch</b>	Saint Paul	Pain Patient	Yes	Because I'm a grown adult and suffer terrible pain each and everyday some days worst than others, and I'm tired of fighting for my pain meds and only getting limited amounts because of scare doctors afraid of threats from the government.
<b>Vickie Lachelt</b>	Saint Paul	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	Pain meds are not one size fits all
<b>Jim LaValle</b>	Saint Paul	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	
<b>Anna Dudda</b>	Saint Paul	Caregiver	No	Access to medically appropriate pain management should not be held hostage to politically-motivated fears about the use of medications for non-medical purposes.
<b>Jennifer Morgan</b>	Saint Paul	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Kat Sherman</b>	Saint Paul	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>A Dreyling</b>	Saint Paul	Pain Patient	Yes	Nobody should have to live with life debilitating pain. Regardless of their circumstances.
<b>Andrew Weber</b>	Saint Paul	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	

<b>Suzanne Bennett</b>	Saint Paul	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	I believe in giving pain medicine when it is appropriate and helps people with serious illnesses, chronic pain, and recovering from surgery. Maintaining prescription of pain medication in these instances is not only sensible but also humane.
<b>Peter Koski</b>	Savage	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	family who desperately needs it
<b>Laura Johnson</b>	Shafer	Pain Patient	Yes	I was diagnosed with MS in 1986 and Degenerative Disc Disorder in 1992. After having a second failed back surgery in 1992 I was told I would have to wear a fentanyl patch for the rest of my life to control the pain, dosage to be adjusted to pain level. I enjoyed a good quality of life all while my pain was managed by a pain specialist.. I had been to 9 pain clinics previously and none of them could get my pain under control or managed. This Doctor was able to get me back to work and lead a productive life, raise my family, start a 501c3 non profit organization that is still going strong today. I had a social life, loved to garden and teach neighborhood children about food and where it comes from. I enjoyed several hobbies, took vacations, etc.. All of that changed when I was told about the restrictions placed on pain medications I was prescribed to manage my pain. The 2016 CDC Prescribing Guidelines were adopted by lawmakers, DHS and the medical board in MN and I soon learned what life would be like for me and my family. After losing my oldest son who took his life due to a gambling addiction that was out of control and left him feeling helpless and hopeless I was force tapered down to a minimal amount of the fentanyl patch and all break through meds were stopped. The anti anxiety medication, Clonazepam was also stopped. The life I once enjoyed to its fullest soon began to spiral downward. I had to take early retirement due to my disabling condition and losing the medications that allowed me to enjoy a good quality of life was impacting my life in ways I had not planned for. I worked hard to save for my golden years, to travel and explore the world that was waiting. My golden years are nothing but agony and misery. I have lost my ability to walk due to the excruciating pain that consumes my every waking moment. I am unable to sleep more than a couple of hours at the most. My heart is now affected by the undertreated pain, putting me at high risk of cardiac arrest because the pain is taking a toll on my heart. Even though I have taken care of myself and my health as best as I could I am facing the possibility of death every time I have an episode with my heart racing, sweating profusely and painful spasms that cause my legs to stiffen. I am unable to turn my head because of the neck pain that radiates down from my head to my low back and down into my legs. Any movement I can hear "crunching". Bone on bone pain that has no words. I never abused, sold or gave away any of my medications. I don't use alcohol. I have tried to lead a good, healthy lifestyle. Physically impaired doesn't mean the end of ones life! Living with agonizing pain along with impairments? This isn't living, it's an existence. My pain specialist recently dumped me because he no longer wanted to treat my painful condition. No advance notice, said I would be able to find another doctor "no problem". I have spent several months trying to find another Dr. to take my case and no one is treating painful medical conditions! Doctors are afraid! They are targeted by the medical board, the DEA and anyone else who can make their lives miserable! The list of victims is long, this is legalized torture! I never signed up for this! The drug addicts who helped create this overdose epidemic caused my life to change in ways unimaginable! I went public with my story in 2019, met with my Senator and have been vocal about how wrong this is! How can anyone even think this is okay? Allowing people to suffer a life of misery? The most vulnerable group of

<b>Nancy Vanderburg</b>	Shoreview	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	As a Public Health Nurse I used to work with those who have a diagnosis of Sickle Cell Disorders. This condition can cause extreme pain and I ever so frequently heard from people and their families about them not being able to get appropriate doses of pain medication. My heart goes out to those living with this extreme and chronic pain.
<b>Joy Fredrickson</b>	Shorewood	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Jill Weinzierl</b>	St Bonifacius	Pain Patient	No	I've been living in pain for over 30 years, daily, constant pain. After being in pain for about 25 years I finally agreed to get some help. Earlier on I just dealt with the pain because I was afraid of taking too many medications. My doctor and myself have been very responsible with my medications and while I am not pain free, I am able to enjoy life a bit better and continue to work full time... without the help from the pain I wouldn't be able to do either.
<b>Becky Cannon</b>	St Cloud	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	I've seen people suffering terribly and I will support anything to help them

<b>Linda Anderson</b>	St Cloud	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>I have been a chronic pain patient for 12+ years, after a botched surgery. I was a very vibrant, healthy (having lost 120lbs prior to this surgery), VERY active person who had never heard of ANY drug beyond morphine, when my life was flipped upside-down.</p> <p>I struggled for several years, going to ERs because I was in SEVERE, doubled over, pain with vomiting that wouldn't stop. The doctors often gave me a drug, I had no idea what it was at the time but knew it made me feel better, called dilaudid. When my doctor asked me what they gave me that helped....I told him and he filled me in. I had NO IDEA that 12+ years later, I'd STILL be vomiting and struggling daily with pain that feels like my insides are being cut out with a hot spoon.</p> <p>I have been a stellar patient.... APPLYING to be seen by pain management, signing contracts, agreeing to random drug tests and pill counts, tip toeing around my provider when he asks how I'm doing, bc I fear that if I'm honest, they'll drop me as a patient. I cannot be honest with my provider about my health... isn't something wrong there?</p> <p>In October of 2021, I was informed that regardless of my status as a 100% compliant patient, who has responsibly taken these medications for years, I will be weaned. It doesn't matter that my pain is NOT controlled at a lower dose, as evidenced by my own journaling of symptoms, that the health system has given pain patients "a big middle finger" and that ALL patients will be lowered (despite having uncontrolled pain) to a specific MME. This new policy change has left me devastated, hopeless and terrified of my future.</p> <p>The CDC has come out and made it clear that patients were never meant to have a "one-size-fits-all" approach to their pain management. However, MN, along with other states, have instituted these statutes that proclaim ALL patients must fit into this "mold" and if you don't fit that "mold"... good luck. Sadly, suicide rates are increasing, pain patients are starting to look to street drugs for relief (According to the AMA, overdose deaths are up by 75% - with thanks to fentanyl laced drugs - while opioid scripts are down by 44%) or simply giving up and letting their lives be ruined.</p> <p>Worse yet, doctors, including my own, are FORCED to taper patients even when it's NOT in a patients best interest, being threatened with having their licenses revoked, having board inquires and being stalked by the state and DEA. Not to mention, struggling with insurance companies and pharmacists who decide that the LICENSED, often tested for recertification, meeting with their patient monthly and knowing their complete history, doctors are just plain wrong in writing these scripts. Why are the doctors facing these issues?</p>
<b>Virginia Mason</b>	St Paul	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	<p>I believe people with chronic pain deserve to be treated humanly. We are not talking about individuals who are drug seeking. Just knowing what two of my friends go through that have MS is both sad and heartbreaking.</p>
<b>Wendy Narum</b>	St Paul	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>Because I am a chronic pain patient who is tired of suffering and being held to the restrictions on my meds that addicts are held to. I am doing nothing illegal. I am a real medical patient with real medical needs. I want my care point freely back in my doctor's hands.</p>

<b>Wesley Wright</b>	St Paul	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	Yes	
<b>Amy Nietz</b>	St. Charles	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Darla Hamann</b>	St. Cloud	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Elizabeth Javinsky</b>	St. Louis Park	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Court Winjum</b>	St. Paul	Advocate/Activist	Yes	For a friend
<b>Danielle Novack</b>	St. Paul	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Victoria Smith</b>	St. Paul	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	I have a friend with intractable pain and know that is not right when there can be ways to alleviate that pain and give the person a quality of life most of us take for granted.
<b>Justin Zderad</b>	St. Paul	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Katherine Larson</b>	St. Paul	Healthcare professional	Yes	I am a paramedic who deals with chronic pain due to service related injuries. I am also a clinician who is seeing the negative impacts of opioid restrictions on my patients, and even on my patient care choices (I get pushback from doctors for administering narcotic pain control, even when obviously clinically indicated and administered well within my very clear practice guidelines).

<b>Roxanne Gross</b>	St. Paul	Pain Patient	Yes	I have suffered over the last months of severe cutbacks. my pain and problems are coming back full the inability to have control over the pain nerve damage the excruciating sharp knock me off my feet pain recently cost me a fall now I'm suffering not only from a Brain Bleed, 2 Hematomas tearing of the lining of my Brain but frontal lobe injury, a shoulder and hip injury from the fall that all could've been prevented While on prescribed medications I held a full time job first driving school bus for 71)2 years with parents requesting me every year fully knowing my situation trusted there children withe me, I furthered my career getting my commercial License with tanker and Hazmat endorsements driving dump truck loading my own trailer with heavy equipment and driving allover the state to tar roads airports park without incident I raised my son's on my own never once abusing misusing my meds all employers fully aware of my situation Yes I was drug tested more than the normal person but never once a traffic violation I went on to be hired by MTC to drive city bus driving has been my life I was told by one of the Hastings school of driving I was attentive alert,one if the safest and best drivers he's ridden with I didn't ask to become a victim of a careless Dr that destroyed my life I found My Dr DR TODD HESS WHO GAVE ME MY LIFE BACK HE GAVE ME A QUALITY LIFE A LIFE OF PARTICIPATING IN SOCIETY AND MIST IF ALL MY FAMILY I CIACH BOYS HOCKEY ON ICE I DID EVERYTHING BY THE BOOK, NOW I've been stripped of quality, dignity of family and friends In cannot get out of bed I'm falling down I c as n barely take care of myself this has cost me ( ME, as Human being) !! I'm being cheated out of life and forced to suffer the worst pain you want proof I have all the proof you want answers to what was done to me by a Dr no less I will TESTIFY I want to tell my side I want people to hear to see and now what happens to you my stay in the hosp was horrify not only was I not treated properly I was informed I was addicted to opioids, my pharmacist constantly told people what I was taking and telling me what I should and should not be on humiliating me in front of others things need to change I've lost 40 lbs ice aged 20 years my body is deviated going through the withdrawal my heart has sent me to the ER and now no help for a Brain injury I'm suppose to suffer my chart has been changed not by my Dr someone else I've been given choices by ON CALL DRS take what I give you or nothing what choices do we have for gods sake open your eyes and ears and minds the mme has got to go the lies if overdoses and prescribed medications being the problem they are not it
<b>Sandra Peterson</b>	St. Paul	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	My brother needs every option to treat his severe intractable pain caused by nerve damage in his head! He deserves it too!
<b>Karen Kerr</b>	St. Paul	Caregiver	Yes	My clients have chronic and intractable pain that can only be managed with opiates, one would die without them.
<b>Kathleen Buss</b>	St. Paul Park	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	
<b>Theresa Erickson Bohn</b>	Stacy	Pain Patient	Yes	I'm losing my quality of life.



<b>Shae Green</b>	Stillwater	Pain Patient	Yes	I have been living with horrible chronic pain for almost 7 years, and my quality of life is not adequate due to the limitations of medication and accessible remedies for me. This is a life-long disease I have to deal with, not short term, nothing I can cure. I have a husband and two kids. I am missing out on amazing moments with my children due to insufferable pain I endure, mainly because of the limitations of medications and procedures that have not helped me.
<b>Jodi Kysne</b>	Taylor Falls	Pain Patient	Yes	I am a chronic pain patient that has been denied treatment with pain medication due to government interference.
<b>Laurie Roser</b>	Two Harbors	Pain Patient	Yes	Because my quality of life depends on receiving a degree of medications (narcotic) which continue to be under scrutiny and in jeopardy of being taken away or lessened which is not fair to those of us who are not trying to get high or abuse these meds.
<b>Jessica Thielbar</b>	Watertown	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	Individuals suffering deserve a life with as little pain possible
<b>Kurtis Couch</b>	Waterville	Pain Patient	Yes	To help myself and others to receive appropriate care after often already exhausting all other forms/methods of treatment or having those methods out of reach due to financial burdens.
<b>Joseph Shekleton</b>	Waterville, MN	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	
<b>Samantha Hyde</b>	West st Paul	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	No	Someone needs to support and try to help those in need that have just been thrown aside like they no longer matter... sad situation!
<b>Julie Seidl</b>	West St. Paul	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Jessica Luther</b>	White Bear Lake	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	No	Concern for sickle cell patients that I've known
<b>Danya Espinosa</b>	Winona	Pain Patient	Yes	Pain patients are not given adequate medical attention due to excessive restrictions on pain medication and misinformation about pain relief in general. Everyone deserves opportunity to be treated medically and live their best life. Understanding pain is necessary to removing barriers. Our lawmakers need to hear from people who suffer from pain when making decisions that affect their medical care and treatment.

<b>Laurie Mathern</b>	Winsted	Pain Patient	No	I have several things wrong with my back and both my knees. Every day I'm suffering in pain. I a great deal of depression and anxiety. I can't handle living like this! No one with pain should have to suffer!
<b>Taya Zakharenko</b>	Woodbury	Pain Patient	Yes	I have been suffering from chronic pain for years due to my medical condition. After trying numerous meds over the years, there are only certain specific pain meds that help me. However, my doctor cannot prescribe them for me anymore due to this restriction. Only people who live with constant pain can understand what go through! It's in your power to to give my life back! Thank you for your consideration!
<b>Jennifer Benoit</b>	Zimmerman	Pain Patient	No	I am a chronic pain patient and so are my family members
<b>Janis Devries</b>	Zimmerman	Pain Patient	Yes	I Have Had Retractable Pain for 20 Yrs. Due to a Severe Work Injury and Have Gone Through Many Pain Management Programs and Only Get Pain Relief from Pain Meds. Otherwise, I am Bedridden. It's All I Have to get Me Through Daily!

**People who responded outside of Minnesota. These were not updated due to being outside of Minnesota.**

<b>First and Last Name</b>	<b>If Minnesota resident, in which city do you reside?</b>	<b>What option best describes you?</b>	<b>Willing to testify if given opportunity</b>	<b>Comment (Optional) - Why are you supporting this bill and requesting a hearing?</b>
<b>Meggy James</b>	not	Pain Patient	No	Because I am a pain patient and understand the suffering so many are dealing with.
<b>Donald Marcello jr</b>	Not a Minnesota resident	Pain Patient	No	I'm a chronic disease and intractable pain patient. I reside in upstate New York. I'm advocating for all!
<b>Sue Birch</b>	Not a MN resident	Spouse/Family/Friend of person with intractable pain	Yes	People in pain need help. And elderly should not have to spend their last years in misery.
<b>Simone Uwan MD</b>	Not a MN resident	Pain Patient	Yes	I can't believe that in this day and age, we are having to fight for pain management. Pain in Sickle Cell disease for example is an indicator of end organ damage, and pain medication is not just for comfort, but to prevent a stress response which actually causes FURTHER sickling, and more organ damage-a vicious cycle. The patient ends up having more health compromise and becomes more difficult to treat next time around, increasing hospital stay s. In essence, you are actually worsening the problem you wish to eliminate-an increased financial burden on the healthcare system
<b>Susan Seelbinder</b>	Not a resident	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Donnie Devers</b>	Not a resident	Pain Patient	Yes	Because people are being neglected when we need pain meds and it's not right!

<b>Carmen MitsuyasuGapero</b>	Not a resident	Advocate/Activist	No	Pain patients are being subject to irreparable harm because we are not protected after the CDC guidelines were written and published. Many have been left in severe pain and have been given death as an only choice to escape the pain they've been experiencing. Our physicians need to be able to treat doctors without having their hands tied behind their back.
<b>Eileen McGee</b>	Not a resident	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Barbara Stock</b>	Not a resident	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Larry Hutson</b>	Not a resident	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>Melissa Quackenbush</b>	Not in Minnesota	Pain Patient	No	
<b>KS Spain</b>	not in Minnesota	Pain Patient	Yes	Those who have painful diseases and conditions have been made to suffer pain, disability & even death due to misguided legislation.
<b>Lisa Peddicord</b>	Not in MN	Pain Patient	No	I am a chronic intractible pain patient myself. I have lost access to medication that allows me quality of life. I support all pain patients and their plight to get relief from unrelenting pain. This is not something anyone should have to fight for, it should be given as part a humane treatment plan.
<b>Charlotte reagan</b>	Not resident	Pain Patient	Yes	Being consumed by pain is NOT life. Too many went from being productive members of society under pain management to being unable to work, sleep regularly or have any quality of life at all when pain management was stripped from them. Many of those have been left with no choice but to find the only relief left available, suicide. On my "bad days" i often consider joining them. Living in constnt pain is NOT a life.
<b>Anna Phelps</b>	Not resident	Pain Patient	No	Improve quality of life and functionality for pain patients as well as improve how treated by medical community
<b>Christa Graham</b>	NJ	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Jackie Melcher</b>	San Antonio Texas	Pain Patient	Yes	I've been in pain 38 years. Am incurable and degenerative. I've tried all the alternatives. I was able to function as a wife and mother for 20 years. The last 4 I've been lowered on my meds and now suffer 24/7. I spend all my time with distraction techniques but my husband and I no longer have a life. Some people need medication to survive. I now have high blood pressure and cholesterol. I have osteopenia and broke 2 vertebrae from steroids. I also have stomach problems from NSAIDS.

<b>Tavia Palmer</b>	Texas - resident but has family in Minnesota	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>This is an issue that affects approx. 50 million US chronic and intractable pain patients. The "Opioid Crisis" has been blamed on prescription opioids and in consequence, pain patients have had their pain medicine drastically reduced or completely taken away. Less than 1% of prescription pain patients actually become addicted. The actual cause of most overdoses are street drugs-Illegal Chinese Fentanyl, Heroin, Alcohol &amp; illegally imported opioids that are much stronger than prescription opioids. When Trump made a campaign promise to end the opioid crisis, he gave outrageous, arbitrary power to the DEA to prosecute doctors who were prescribing opioids-jail time, loss of assets, many lost their licenses and practices unfairly. This scorched earth policy along with the CDC putting out their prescribing guidelines (for which they did not have a mandate-I will explain that corruption later) had the effect of making doctors too afraid to prescribe. The result for pain patients has been forced drastic tapering of pain medicine, many millions have been cut off completely. I am one of those people who have been cut off entirely after 5 years of pain management for multiple medical problems. Production of opioids has been cut back by Congress, ridiculous laws have been passed in many states limiting post-surgery pain medicine. Women with double mastectomies are being sent home with Tylenol, hip replacement patients are limited to 2 weeks of pain medicine. Cancer patients are being denied pain relief and die in agony. Our veterans have been cut off of their pain medicine which is a disgrace after what they have done for this country. The doctors are too afraid to prescribe adequate pain medicine because of the DEA. It's almost impossible to find a pain management doctor that will actually prescribe pain medicine. Many stupid state laws further restricting access have been proposed and passed by states who in their ignorance, are making this situation worse. Intern this is costing the American taxpayer greatly! People being forced into disability and relying on state benefits just to survive. Big money insurance &amp; hospital corporations have gotten involved to save themselves money. There is now a bill proposing giving access to law enforcement of our medical records destroying our HIPPA rights. We are now labeled as addicts (OUD-Opioid Use Disorder) despite the fact that there is a huge difference between dependency for pain management and addiction. Thousands of us have spent the last 6 years trying to right this wrong &amp; we haven't made a lot of progress. This has cost millions of people their ability to function. They can't work. take care of their families, can't do most of the simple things to take care of themselves and have any sort of normal life. We are living with unbelievable pain and just trying to stay alive. Untreated and under-treated pain causes stress on the heart, systems collapse, atrophied muscles, general weakness, depression, anxiety, PTSD, and suicide. We have lost hundreds to suicide. People of color have been adversely affected by this also. People shouldn't have to choose between extreme pain &amp; death. The biggest problem is ignorance. Most people have no idea of the real cause of the "opioid epidemic". Granted, there are a few bad doctors, and there is an overdose problem. However, depriving everyone of pain medicine will not help the addicts. Prohibition didn't work before and it won't work now.</p>
<b>Jacki Hansford</b>	Kansas	Pain Patient	Yes	<p>The inability to treat my condition with pain meds due to opioid crisis. No physician will take care of me because we just moved here. My pain management doctor in Colorado took care of me for 11 years with the same RX same dose for 11 years. I was able to work, drive, travel, walk, put my shoes on, bathe, get dressed, everyday activities that people take advantage of. Now I can't work because I can't fulfill my job duties. I can't sleep and I'm in constant pain. I'm fearful of surgery because I've heard patients leaving the hospital after knee replacements with Tylenol or Ibuprofen. The lucky ones "might" get 10 pain pills. It's abuse short and simple.</p>
<b>Carla Lewis</b>	do not live in Minnesota	Caregiver	Yes	<p>I support this bill to further see patients like my son which lives with sickle cell disease that causes chronic pain get to have effective treatment to live a quality life. As a parent and advocate I understand the importance of patients to access supportive treatments. This bill is an effort to make a change to help patients.</p>

<b>Hogan, Paula</b>	Do not live in MN	Pain Patient	No	
<b>Bonnie Floyd</b>	do not reside in MN	Pain Patient	Yes	Because I am scared to death to have needed surgeries or go to pain management. Pain relief is not available and last time I had a problem went into shock. This is not acceptable and there are people out there much worse than I am.
<b>Deborah Bertolino</b>	Houston	Pain Patient	Yes	Be for the CDC guidelines came out I had been on iPods for 30 years. I was able to function and have a active life. Without opioid medication I cannot Evan go to grocery store.
<b>Andrea Anderson</b>	Houston with friends in Minnesota being force tapered	Concerned citizen supporting the bill	Yes	Government should not be between a physician and a patient. Intractable pain is a burden that includes extreme suffering. Physicians must have all available medications and modalities available to treat severe pain.
<b>Sandra Elliott</b>	i do not	Pain Patient	Yes	Pain and disability group
<b>Kellie Gasser</b>	Milwaukee	Pain Patient	Yes	Pain patients need help. This crisis is a Heroin & Illicitt fentanyl Crisis! Patients need good physicians and treatments, medications that work.
<b>Carol Craig</b>	No	Pain Patient	Yes	
<b>matisse ravenhart</b>	no	Pain Patient	Yes	I know what it is like to battle pain and be ignored because of patient unique physical traits.
<b>Jodie Kopec</b>	West Brookfield Massachusetts	Pain Patient	Yes	Because I'm in pain and I don't get the proper care for my life I suffer
<b>Ashebia Lemonier</b>	Brooklyn, NY	Pain Patient	No	I experienced pain and the pain hurts bad! I live every day with pain and it's debilitating. Without pain medicine I wouldn't be able to live my life. I wouldn't want anyone to suffer from pain.
<b>Julie Spatzier</b>	Florida	Pain Patient	Yes	I live in constant pain and cannot survive without medication
<b>Lisa Serles</b>	Frankiln Indiana	Pain Patient	Yes	cause I'm tempted to commit suicide.











































































