

ENHANCE TRANSIT SAFETY FOR RIDERS WITH MOBILITY LIMITATIONS

HF 337 (Sencer-Mura)/SF 334 (Mohamed)

JOY'S STORY

My name is Joy Rindels Hayden and I live in South Minneapolis. My accident happened at 3:40 p.m. Monday, January 9, 2017. My bus stopped at 38th and Chicago, and I was getting off the bus to make a transfer. Because of the timing of the buses, I didn't have much time to make a transfer.

The bus stop is near a convenience store. The store's parking lot and gas pump areas were cleared of snow, but much snow was piled on the sidewalk. I use a walker. The bus driver used a hydraulic ramp so that I could get off the bus. The ground was covered with snow, the sidewalk wasn't cleared properly, and the ramp wasn't on the sidewalk. I stepped out, lifting my walker's front wheels. The back wheels got caught. I pulled and pulled. Suddenly the wheel came free came over the top, and I fell backward and landed on Chicago Avenue.

The injury caused me to lose consciousness. I sustained a brain bleed and had an ischemic stroke. The stroke affected my speech. I was very fortunate that my speech and my cognitive abilities came back.

I spent 17 days in the hospital and had to undergo rehabilitation. Walker users such as myself could face similar situations moving forward because of the angles of the ramps. This incident did not need to happen. I have partnered with the Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance to enhance training for bus drivers to increase passenger safety, especially in inclement weather.

The accident has had a profound impact on my life. I am here because this accident was preventable and I want to do everything I can to keep it from happening to anybody else.



WHAT THIS BILL WOULD DO:



Enhance bus driver training to improve safety for people who use walkers on metro transit, especially in inclement weather situations.



Thank you to Sen. Torres Ray and Sen. Housley for previously championing this bill.

Ensure that metro-transit and suburban providers continue to provide safe riding for people with mobility limitations.

Please support HF 337/SF 334

The Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance is committed to public policy change that prevents brain injury by improving safety and reducing risks



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