

September 20, 2023

ATTN: Minnesota Department of Health

RE: HF 2509, SF 2611

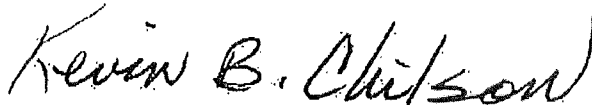
To Whom it May Concern:

Please allow this letter to serve as complete support for the above mentioned Legislative Bills that were/will be proposed. Regardless of type of business, we are all facing the challenge of staffing. The funeral business is not exempt to this challenge.

There have been times where removal of a deceased from their place of death is delayed or even, at times, declined as there are not enough licensed staff to make the removals from the location of death. Can you imagine having a loved one pass away at home or nursing facility and the funeral home you have chosen to care for your loved one not being able to respond to your call for hours? It creates an uncomfortable situation for everyone involved.

Filling this need with trained but unlicensed personnel is a simple and logical solution. It is past due that the funeral industry changes to accommodate families of loved ones that have passed away and the funeral homes that are serving these families. The pilot program that was implemented previously worked very successfully on a small scale. With that in mind, I encourage you to extend this program to a larger scale to allow funeral homes to serve our families in a more timely manner.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin B. Chilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kevin B. Chilson

Owner / President

The Peterson Chapel, Buffalo & St. Michael/Albertville