

To Whom It May Concern,

I have experience with hospice through making medical decisions and caring for my father. My father was under the care of hospice for a little over 6 months. I am writing to offer my support for the proposed amendments to the Hospice Bill of Rights (Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 144A.751, subdivision 1). My experience has provided me with insight to understand just how impactful these proposed changes can be.

As someone who has been through the Hospice care program, I fully support the proposed amendments. I believe these amendments will provide patients and their families with enhanced rights and understanding of those rights when on hospice. These changes allow for the understanding that hospice is a collaborative environment where family's and medical professionals work together to create an acceptable plan of care. While also informing that patients/families have the right to refuse care at any time. I experienced a lack of understanding and confidence in both departments that I believe would have been aided by these amendments. Overall, this would increase the quality of care given to the patient and allow families to play an active role in shaping their loved one's care. While also feeling in control of what care is provided.

As someone who has personal experience with hospice, I have witnessed firsthand the importance of advocating for a patient that cannot do so themselves. However, effective advocating cannot be done without a clear understanding of the rights one has when on hospice. That is why I believe these amendments are so crucial. The addition of clearer guidelines for family involvement in decision-making is essential. Families need to have a clear understanding of the care plan while also participating in any discussions regarding changes. This allows for effective advocating of the patient's wishes. These changes would empower families and give them information to help reduce the stress of navigating complex decisions during an already emotional time.

Sincerely,

Will Deloney

3/15/2025

1412 Independence Curve, Delano, MN 55328