



March 25, 2025

The Honorable John A. Hoffman
Chair, Human Services Committee
Minnesota Senate
2111 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Jordan Rasmusson
Ranking Minority Member, Human Services Committee
Minnesota Senate
2409 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Legal Aid/Minnesota Disability Law Center Support for SF 2934

Dear Chair Hoffman, Ranking Minority Member Rasmusson, and Members of the Committee:

Legal Aid and the Minnesota Disability Law Center (MDLC) thank you for the opportunity to provide written support for SF 2934.

This bill will help ensure the safety of assisted living residents. We support the training requirements (lines 4.1-4.22) and the guidelines (lines 5.3-6.2) regarding the use of restraints in assisted living facilities. It is well established that the use of restraints is dangerous for both staff and residents. Emergency manual restraint should be used solely as a last resort in cases where there is an imminent risk of physical harm. Prone restraint should never be used given its potential deadly consequences. The use of restraints is clearly regulated in other settings, such as group homes and nursing homes; however, Minnesota Chapter 144G currently lacks the necessary details governing its use in assisted living facilities. We support this bill that will provide important guidance for assisted living staff and protect the wellbeing of assisted living residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding SF 2598. We urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Purrington'.

Jennifer Purrington
Legal Director/Deputy Director
Minnesota Disability Law Center

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ellen Smart'.

Ellen Smart
Staff Attorney
Legal Services Advocacy Project

This document has been formatted for accessibility. Please call Ellen Smart at 612/746-3761 if you need this document in an alternative format.