SF3602: THE UNIFORM ELECTRONIC ESTATE PLANNING DOCUMENTS ACT

***Background*:**

- Minnesota has adopted various statutes allowing electronic signatures, including the Uniform Transactions Act, the Uniform Real Property Electronic Recording Act, Remote Online Notarization, and most recently the Electronic Wills Act.
- This bill, the Uniform Electronic Estate Planning Documents Act (UEEPDA), would expand on the Electronic Wills Act by authorizing electronic signatures for other estate planning documents (e.g., revocable trusts, power of attorney forms, and health care directives).
- This version of the UEEPDA is a joint effort between the Uniform Law Commission and the Minnesota State Bar Association. It has been modified to add state specific statutory references and other changes to align with Minnesota law.

Benefits of the bill:

- This bill will make it easier for Minnesotans to sign critical estate planning documents.
- This bill will be especially helpful for Minnesotans who are hospitalized or homebound, or those who live in rural areas with limited access to estate planning attorneys.
- Because Minnesotans already can electronically sign wills, it is likely that some people will assume that they can also sign other estate planning documents electronically. While not specifically prohibited, an institution might refuse to accept an electronically signed document without the specific statutory authorization this bill provides.

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