SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

S.F. No. 1136

(SENATE AUTHORS: HOFFMAN and Rasmusson)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/10/2025	324	Introduction and first reading Referred to Health and Human Services See HF2115

A bill for an act

relating to health; providing residents of long-term care facilities with the right to a designated support person; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 144.651, subdivision 10a; 144G.91, by adding a subdivision.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 144.651, subdivision 10a, is amended to read:

Subd. 10a. **Designated support person ~~for pregnant patient or other patient~~.** (a) Subject to paragraph (c), a health care provider and a health care facility must allow, at a minimum, one designated support person chosen by a patient, including but not limited to a pregnant patient, to be physically present while the patient is receiving health care services including during a hospital stay. Subject to paragraph (c), a facility must allow, at a minimum, one designated support person chosen by the resident to be physically present with the resident while the resident is at the facility.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "designated support person" means any person chosen by the patient or resident to provide comfort to the patient or resident, including but not limited to the patient's or resident's spouse, partner, family member, or another person related by affinity. Certified doulas and traditional midwives may not be counted toward the limit of one designated support person.

(c) A facility may restrict or prohibit the presence of a designated support person in treatment rooms, procedure rooms, and operating rooms when such a restriction or prohibition is strictly necessary to meet the appropriate standard of care. A facility may also restrict or prohibit the presence of a designated support person if the designated support person is acting in a violent or threatening manner toward others. Any restriction or prohibition of a

designated support person by the facility is subject to the facility's written internal grievance procedure required by subdivision 20.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 144G.91, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6a. **Designated support person.** (a) Subject to paragraph (c), an assisted living facility must allow, at a minimum, one designated support person chosen by the resident to be physically present with the resident while the resident is at the facility.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "designated support person" means any person chosen by the resident to provide comfort to the resident, including but not limited to the resident's spouse, partner, family member, or another person related by affinity.

(c) A facility may restrict or prohibit the presence of a designated support person if the restriction or prohibition is strictly necessary to meet the appropriate standard of care or if the designated support person is acting in a violent or threatening manner toward others. If the facility restricts or prohibits a resident's designated support person from being present, the resident may file a complaint or inquiry with the facility according to subdivision 20.