



MDH Commissioner Jan Malcolm Named Public Official of the Year Award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 18, 2019

CONTACT: Jodi Boyne
612.749.9758

SAINT PAUL – (Sept. 18, 2019) – LeadingAge Minnesota named Jan Malcolm, Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health, its Public Official of the Year Award for her leadership in designing the Elder Care Protection and Vulnerable Adult Protection Act of 2019.

The Public Official of the Year Award recognizes a public servant who went above and beyond the normal call for action and made a significant difference in long-term care.

Commissioner Malcom was a key architect in designing a framework for licensure that will usher in the next generation of assisted living in Minnesota. She brought stakeholders together to gain a better understanding of the diverse perspectives from seniors and their families, consumer advocates, providers and regulators. Malcolm then shepherded a collaborative process over the course of 18 months to find pragmatic, common sense solutions that will provide greater clarity and transparency for consumers and their families, strengthen regulatory oversight and consumer protection, and maintain a model of senior living that supports consumer choice, options and the opportunity to age in place.

“Jan Malcolm worked diligently to ensure that all stakeholders understood the importance of protecting older adults in long-term care settings and never lost sight of our shared goal to ensure respectful, compassionate, and quality care in senior living,” said Nancy Stratman, Chair of the LeadingAge Minnesota Board of Directors and Director of Senior Services and Cuyuna Range Medical Center-Care Center in Crosby. “The balanced compromise that became the Elder Care Protection and Vulnerable Adult Protection Act of 2019 would not have been possible without Commissioner Malcolm.”

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About LeadingAge Minnesota

Driven to transform and enhance the experience of aging, LeadingAge Minnesota is shaping future of aging services to ensure older adults in every community live with dignity, meaning and purpose. Together with more than 60,000 caregivers, our members provide quality services and supports to 70,000 older adults every day in independent senior housing, assisted living communities, adult day, in-home care and skilled nursing facilities.