

Apologies..my name and address: Carol Rizzolo, 476 Wood Hill Rd, Cheshire, CT 06410

On Tue, Mar 19, 2013 at 2:49 PM, Carol Rizzolo <carol.rizzolo@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi, I am writing in support of the HB 6645. For over 35 years, my profession has been in the medical world. In the mid-1970's as an early career professional in Human Genetics and later as a Primary Care Physician Assistant. In my professional role I have provided medical care in Emergency Rooms, Pediatrics, Family Practice, and now, no longer practicing as a Physician Assistant ,I am deeply engaged in bearing witness for those living at the end of their lives.

One thing that has been very clear to me throughout all of this work is the desire by most individuals to alleviate their own suffering. We are a culture that relies deeply on our medical practitioners for advice and for help in treating our pain. How can any law seek to tie the hands of a physician, to interfere in the trusting physician/patient relationship, by vilifying the physician who seeks to help his or her patients alleviate suffering? Individuals wish to make their own choices regarding their lives and regarding their deaths. Why make them go through this difficult time alone and in pain if this is not their desire?

I urge you to pass HB 6645 because someday you or someone you love may find yourselves faced with this difficult decision, and you may wish to have your doctor ease your pain.

Best, Carol L. Rizzolo, RPA, PhD

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Be content with what you have; rejoice in the way things are. When you realize there is nothing lacking, the whole world belongs to you.

-Lao Tzu