

As I age, death and dying have become more and more of a frequent experience among my peers, more and more

of a concern for myself. After careful consideration, I am here to say that when the time comes, I do not NOW know

what I might do but I do know that, barring instantaneous unconsciousness or death, I VERY, VERY STRONGLY

wish that it be MY CHOICE as to when and how to die.

Among multiple activities, I run two separate book discussion groups, one of which met this past Tuesday, March

11, 2014 to discuss a popular novel called ME BEFORE YOU by JoJo Moyes, which is about a quadriplegic who

wants to die and a caretaker who dedicates herself to trying to convince him to change his mind. The readers in

attendance at the discussion unanimously agreed that the decision should be up to him and that it made sense in

the situation as written.

Advocating for a right to decide for myself, so long as certain criteria and safeguards are satisfied, does not in any

way impose a particular outcome on anyone else. Enacting HB 5326 would protect the prescribing physician and

enable you to retain your own right to decide for yourself when you become terminally ill; I simply am asking for the

same privilege for myself.

Thank you for your time and attention.

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