

## Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

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**From:** karen banks <karenveebanks@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2015 12:24 PM  
**To:** JudTestimony  
**Subject:** HB 7015

Testimony Against HB 7015 March 18th 2015 Hartford LOB Judiciary Committee

My name is Karen Banks. I am an RN and I live in Newtown, CT.

I am strongly opposed to HB 7015 entitled An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients. The concept of this bill is the same as the bill I gave testimony against at the Public Health Committee hearing in March of last year and the year before.

Rather than focusing legislation on helping the terminally ill to kill him or herself, we should be striving for compassionate care of the dying person through a wider use of palliative care, hospice care if appropriate and mental health care as well as respite care to provide relief for caregivers. Our time, energy, dollars and support should go towards helping the dying to live comfortably as possible in the last months of their lives. We should not be focusing on helping them to die by suicide, but to live with the assistance of palliative care.

In 2013 the General Assembly established the Palliative Care Advisory Council to examine the current delivery of palliative care in CT and to make recommendations for identifying and expanding best practices. It would appear, therefore, that you consider palliative care to be something worthwhile and I would recommend that you focus on that practice modality rather than a "killing" modality.

I was pleased to have our legislators repeal the death penalty a few years ago, yet find it very troublesome and contradictory that you persist in proposing a bill to allow ill individuals to kill themselves! Something seems to be quite wrong with the thought process here. Criminals cannot be killed, yet the terminally ill may commit suicide.

Please. If you are proposing any death sentence, let it be for this bill.

Thank you and I look forward to your vote to defeat bill HB 7015.

**Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda**

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**From:** Gitta Morris <gittamorris@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2015 11:14 AM  
**To:** JudTestimony  
**Subject:** Bill HB7105

I fully support the Aid in Dying Bill. I live in Connecticut in part because I believe it is a progressive state with intelligent lawmakers. I'm confident, therefore, that you will pass HB7105.

Sincerely,  
Gitta Morris  
18 Fair Street  
Guilford, CT