

March 17, 2015

Re: Raised House Bill 7015

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I urge you to promote this bill that would allow physicians to prescribe death-inducing amounts of medication to terminally ill patients.

My 52 year-old husband passed away two weeks ago after a long battle with cancer. On top of two years of chemotherapy and major surgeries, he had to suffer through several weeks of mental and physical decline due to brain metastases. If we had had access to physicians and medications to end this suffering, he may have chosen that path. Even if he had not, it would have eased his mind in the last year of life to know that he could choose to put an end to his suffering when treatment options ran out.

Dying from cancer is cruel enough as it is – the last weeks should not have to be this tortuous. The “do no harm” issue does not hold water for me – requiring someone to suffer piteously when there is no hope for a cure is not preventing harm.

Thank you for your consideration.

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