

My name is Sharon Hines and I am a lifelong resident of CT. I worked as an oncology nurse and oncology nurse practitioner for more than 30 years including 10 years in hospice.

During that time I have cared for hundreds and hundreds of patients in the last months of their lives. While we have been able to provide many with adequate pain and symptom control and a peaceful death, I learned early on in my career that not everyone gets to die a "good death."

For nearly 7 years, I have been living with stage IV lung cancer. A year ago I was diagnosed with brain metastases. The best case scenario, I would have a sudden death. Unfortunately, I know all too well what the possibilities are and when I no longer enjoy a good quality of life, I want the option to use Aid-In-Dying, right here in CT, the state I have called home my entire life.

It is in your power to ensure that people of Connecticut who opt for death with dignity will have access to a sound and safe law to do so. Please support the Aid-in-Dying legislation.

Sincerely yours,

Sharon L. Hines MS, APRN-C