

## Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

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**From:** Todd H. Ahern, PhD <todd.h.ahern@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:20 PM  
**To:** JudTestimony  
**Cc:** Todd H. Ahern, PhD  
**Subject:** OPPOSITION to HB 7015  
**Attachments:** No to HB 7015.docx

Dear Sen. Crisco and Rep. D'Agostino,

Thank you for your service to CT.

I am writing to urge your opposition to HB 7015 and any other bills supporting or legalizing assisted suicide in our state.

1. Assisted suicide is a deadly mix with our broken, profit-driven health care system.
2. Assisted suicide is dangerous to people with disabilities and many other people in vulnerable circumstances.
3. Available statistics show that pain is rarely the reason why people choose assisted suicide.
4. The supposed safeguards included in the Oregon and Washington State laws don't really protect patients for many reasons, including misdiagnosis, family pressures, doctor shopping, etc.
5. Some 24 states have rejected the legalization of assisted suicide since Oregon passed its law. CT should do the same.
6. Many key organizations oppose the legalization of assisted suicide.
7. Suicide requests from people with terminal illness are usually based on fear and depression.
8. International models, particularly the Netherlands, show that assisted suicide cannot be limited to a small, targeted group once the option is made legal.

Considering these an a host of other dangers, I again urge you to OPPOSE HB 7015.

Sincerely,

Todd H. Ahern, PhD  
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