

Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

From: John Barnowski <johnbarn@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 12:42 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: SUPPORT the bill for aid in dying for terminally ill patients

I am writing to voice my full and entire support for HB 7015, An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients.

Although the State may have the legal obligation to interject its legislative process into this supremely personal matter, the State should not put itself in the position of infringing on personal choice and individual freedoms. Passage of HB 7015 is a first step in removing governmental barriers from the individual's right to freedom of choice.

If I have any misgivings about HB 7015, it is that it is too restrictive and prescriptive. Additional latitude for personal decision should be incorporated into the language of the bill. Fewer conditions on the degree of counseling and number of requests would improve this bill. Terminal illness should not be the linchpin of the decision. Quality of life and a patient's age should also be considered.

I believe that I am many years from facing this decision, but I know that, when the time comes, I want the right to make this highly personal and private decision without interference from the State. Moreover, I want to know that outsiders and all manner of people who do not know me and have no business in my life will not have any "legal" justification for interfering with my final wishes.

Yours truly,

John Barnowski
Colchester, CT