

Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

From: Marlene Cohen <marlene0001@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 10:35 PM
To: JudTestimony
Cc: zRepresentative Terrie Wood
Subject: "Raised Bill 7015"

To all in the CT Legislature Judiciary Committee,

I am 100% in favor of this bill :

AN ACT CONCERNING AID IN DYING FOR TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS.

To allow a physician to dispense or prescribe medication at the request of a mentally competent patient that has a terminal illness that such patient may self-administer to bring about his or her death. From the end of June 2014 until Feb. 3 ,2015 I watched my mother deteriorate and suffer mentally and physically .She was hospitalized and diagnosed with Congestive Heart Failure and given 6 months to 2 years to live.She was mentally competent at the time but was not aware of her diagnosis.She then had a stroke and spent the rest of her life deteriorating to the point where all she did was lay in a bed in a Nursing Home, unable to do anything at all for herself, to the point where she was too weak to speak.She was given higher and higher doses of morphine . She lost her dignity, her ability to speak, and wasted away until she looked like the photos of concentration camp victims and barely resembled herself.. She tried so very hard to talk to us, pick up a phone, or write , reach for things,, She sobbed every day when my father had to leave. The entire family is all still living with the pain of knowing how much she suffered physically and emotionally.It was heart wrenching
When I was about 18 years old I watched my Grandmother, her mother go through a similar situation. At that age , I decided I never wanted be in that state and I feel the same now. I do not want to be alive without my quality of life and dignitary,I have a Living Will with a DNR and am hoping CT allows me to end my life if/when I am competent if I am terminally ill and know that my quality of life will be gone. I have even thought about moving to another state if needed when I am older. I do not want to end my life paying a fortune to to be in a miserable nursing home or hospital bed,
Please pass this bill and allow a patient to have control of their life .

Respectfully,
Marlene Cohen
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Norwalk, CT ,