

## Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

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**From:** Mary Hogue <maryhogue@optonline.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 8:12 AM  
**To:** JudTestimony  
**Subject:** Right to Die Legislation HB 7015

I understand how difficult a topic this is. And I understand the concern of a slippery slope. But I also know that if someone has enough mental acuity to decide that the known pain for themselves and their loved ones is too much to bear with the knowledge that their terminal illness will end their lives shortly, we should honor their strength and courage to decide to die peacefully on their own terms. I don't want to force anyone to make the decision to do this just as I don't want anyone to force me or my family to suffer unnecessarily, with no dignity or hope, knowing they will leave behind more pain and debt than if they could die in a planned manner. Allowing this option fully values, respects and honors life in the true sense of the word, not as a meaningless word that is supported out of guilt. There is nothing easy about making this decision, but we must allow those who do make it to follow through with it. Please look beyond the guilt and concern of opinion but truly appreciate the dignity and courage terminal ill patients have to make this tough decision and allow them to legally follow through with their plans. Please don't add more pain to their lives by restricting their right to die in a dignified manner.

Thank you,

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