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March 17, 2015

Joint Committee on Judiciary
Legislative Office Building, Room 2500
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Senator Coleman, Representative Tong and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I write to express my opposition to HB 7015, AN ACT CONCERNING AID IN DYING FOR TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS. I urge you to oppose the Bill.

The defects in the Bill are many and are addressed in written testimony already on file with the committee. I write to add a specific perspective. It is bad public policy to establish health care priorities, planning and law on the non-normative circumstance. Persons with terminal illness need assurance that their care givers will never abandon them. If this Bill were to be adopted it would send a signal that abandonment is now an option. It will sap patient confidence. It will create an expectation of burden. And it will seep into the medical profession itself. The health care available in this nation is the finest in the world. It is built on the bed rock principle of a covenant of non-abandonment. Please do not contribute to any erosion of that system. Rather, promote, fund and empower hospice care which is a great witness to human solidarity.

Thank you for your service and your time.

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