

**TESTIMONY**  
**To the Judiciary Committee**

**March 26, 2015**  
**TO OPPOSE RAISED BILL NO. 7015:**  
**An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients**

Senator Coleman, Representative Tong and members of the Judiciary Committee.

First of all it is not up to the government to give people permission to take their own lives. I find it disheartening, even under the above circumstances, that you would consider such a thing (you are men/women and not deities). Then you, in effect, are actually giving permission to someone to kill themselves. I'm sure this already happens; but by writing a law you will see it happen more and more, and some of those incidents will be unwarranted.

I had personal experience with a family member dying of cancer. It was heartbreaking and not pleasant. Family took loving care of her, but when the cancer and pain could no longer be handled at home, she received Hospice care. Although in great pain, she was made comfortable in pleasant surroundings where she found other patients to talk with who were in similar circumstances. She was comfortable with the staff (they helped get us all through some tough moments, and were able to guide us in many areas we never had encountered before); they were loving and caring; and her comfort was always attended to from day one to the evening she passed away – with dignity. We had seen her every day, and took comfort in the thoughtfulness and the great care she received. There was never a thought of “hastening” her inevitable death by either any family member, or herself.

I can see where this bill could be horribly abused in many ways and this really bothers me. There could be many reasons why someone would like to hasten another's death, some for unscrupulous reasons, anticipation of inheriting money, some who just doesn't care or want to be bothered, etc. I hope this bill does not pass.

Respectfully,

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Via E-Mail