

March 13, 2015

Dear Judiciary Committee:

I write in opposition to the proposed physician-aid in dying bill. I have taught Yale medical students and residents for over 20 years. I have been involved in teaching and providing palliative care. From personal experience and the literature, it is clear as Dr. Pauline Chen writes in the New York Times January 19, 2012 that physicians cannot predict how long a patient will live. This bill does provide an opportunity to seek more support for patient's physical, emotional and spiritual health. I firmly believe that as a physician I have taken an oath not to actively end a life. It is contradictory to me to have words physician and aid in dying (suicide). I believe as physicians we are to be present for our patients, comfort and care. I write to oppose the physician-aid in dying bill.

Sincerely,



Barry J. Wu, MD, FACP

Clinical Professor of Medicine

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