

Dear members of the Public Health Committee,

I am writing to express my support for HB 5148, an act concerning pregnant patients exercising living wills.

Under current Connecticut law there is no statutory language regarding the validity of advance directives in the case of pregnancy, meaning there is no clear language under current law that says if a pregnant woman is terminally ill and has authorized a directive against life sustaining treatment in her living will her wishes will be followed through.

When laws like this are vague that's when trouble happens and decisions that are already heartbreaking are made all the more painful.

The law must be made crystal clear that a pregnant woman's final wishes will be honored, not the wishes of someone else who sees a woman as unable to make decisions about her life and body.

Thank you for your time,

Leanne Harpin

Fairfield