

HB 5417 An Act Concerning End-Of-Life Care– Support –

Submitted by: Daniel S. Blinn, 147 Gates Farm Rd, Glastonbury, CT 06033

I am the president of Hartford Area Humanists, an organization of more than 700 individuals. I am writing to express my support and my organization's support for HB 5417. As Humanists, we believe that laws should be based upon the well-being of all humanity, and they should be informed by reason and facts.

The experience in Oregon and in other states that have enacted similar laws has been positive. No one wishes to spend their last few weeks or months in intense pain, and patients should, with the guidance and advice of a physician, have an easy way to end their suffering,

We are sympathetic to the concern that no individual should feel pressured to take a lethal dose and that strong care should be taken to ensure that use of such prescriptions is limited to truly terminal patients who are in intense pain. We believe that the bill's safeguards are adequate. There has not been a problem with abuse or inappropriate application in other states with less stringent safeguards.

Thank You,

Daniel S. Blinn