

Dear Members of the Public Health Committee,

Thank you for listening to the serious concerns of the people of Connecticut about HB5417. **I am strongly opposed to this bill.**

My reasons for opposition are

- Physician-assisted suicide is an affront to the medical profession, especially to physicians who pledge to save lives, not intentionally end them
- “End-of-life care” as expressed in this bill is not “care,” it is self-inflicted death
- Physician-assisted suicide denies the person from the process of having a **natural** death which many times is the way a person reconciles his/her relationship with family, God and the events of his/her life
- Hospice care has made great strides and is a way to manage the pain of persons suffering from terminal illness and allows them to die in comfort as the natural course of life comes to a close
- The bill is an affront to the dignity of human life and the natural process of life and death.

Thank you for your listening and I hope for the sake of our state and the highest values of our people that this bill never comes out of committee and is deemed against the dignity of life and the inherent value of each person.

Marjorie A. Foley