

To our elected officials,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 5417.

While I am unable to testify in person against this attempt to legalize assisted suicide, I remain steadfast in my opposition to the culture of death in our state.

Life should be protected in all forms, from conception to natural death.

Likewise, the poor, the disabled, and vulnerable people should be respected and loved as equal citizens.

I have accompanied loved ones, including my parents, to a peaceful and natural death.

Is it easy? No, but accompanying our loved ones in their final days reminds us of our own mortality. It is the compassionate choice, and is the way we express our love.

It is uncomfortable, and, dare I say, inconvenient to walk with another to help carry their cross.

But, that is what we are called to do, and who we are called to be.

Assisted suicide is not the answer to the question of suffering.

We, as humans, must respect the gift of life at all stages, including the end of life.

I strongly urge our elected officials in CT to stand for life in opposition to HB 5417.

Respectfully,

Patrick Gorman

Newtown, CT