

To: Joint Committee on Public Health

Certainly, most of us want to choose how we live our lives. The notion that someone else could make important decisions for me, could tell me what to study in school, where to live, who to marry, how to vote, or even what kind of tomatoes to plant in my garden, is ridiculous. Until now, I'm the one who's made the important decisions in my life, and I appreciate that I've been able to do that.

Now I worry that if I'm terminally ill but mentally competent I won't have medical aid in dying as an option, even if I can no longer endure the pain that may overtake my body. That's in your hands, it's up to you.

I hope you'll think of me, and so many people like me, when you make your decision about this legislation. And when medical aid in dying becomes law in Connecticut, I hope you'll be proud knowing that you helped bring peace of mind to so many.

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