

Mar 12, 2019

Committee Member

Dear Member,

An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients (HB 5898) was introduced by Rep. John Steinberg and is being considered by the Joint Committee on Public Health.. This legislation would allow mentally capable, terminally ill adults with six months or fewer to live the option to request and receive a doctor's prescription for medication they can decide to take to die peacefully if their suffering becomes unbearable. As your constituent, I ask that you support this important legislation.

For me, this issue is personal.

I write to you to call attention to a lifelong friend Sharon Hines.

You'll meet her on March 18th as she'll be speaking at the hearing.

Sharon spent her career in the medical field as an oncology P.A. She's seen first hand the anguish families experience watching their loved ones suffer without the rational choice of termination available to them.

Now Sharon is on the other side of the fence as she suffers from stage four lung cancer. Sharon is a brilliant women and certainly capable of making rational decisions.

Please, please help and allow her to make the decision concerning her life.

We consider it cruel to not end a pets life when they are terminal. Yet when we do, we're told we're brave and compassionate.

Please allow a women like Sharon to exercise that same bravery for herself and her family.

It's the right thing and the compassionate thing to do.

Respectfully,

Peter & Kathy Gedrys

Seven states and the District of Columbia currently authorize medical aid in dying. Rep. Steinberg's legislation empowers terminally ill individuals to determine their end-of-life options. That power is in the in the hands of the patient, not the medical provider -- a critical safeguard that provides Connecticut residents with a transparent, regulated medical practice that ensures terminally ill individuals are protected.

Please support HB 5898: An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients.

Sincerely,

Mr. Peter Gedrys

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