

Dear Public Health Committee,

Please oppose HB 5898, which would allow physician-assisted suicide in our state. Nothing is further from a physician's purpose, which is to heal when possible and to keep a patient comfortably alive. Doctors should do no harm. Similarly, patients should not take their own lives. Of course the seriously ill can have fears that may drive them to think about suicide, but once those fears are addressed, the thought of suicide is likely to go away. There are many, many treatments available to the sick, right up to the natural end of life. The passage of this bill would not only dehumanize our society, but would put good doctors in a quandary because they became doctors in order to keep people alive.

I ask you to please reject HB 5898, and I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kristine Smolkis  
Naugatuck, CT