

Submitter: Stephanie Teahn

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1003

To Those Who Hold Power,

My mother was diagnosed with a terminal cancer and wanted to fight as long as possible to be able to spend as much time as possible with her children and grandchildren. However, this culture of death, and greed for money over valuing precious life infiltrated the insurance she had through her employer. Instead of allowing her the opportunity to fight she received a letter saying her life was no longer valuable to society and instead they would pay for pills she could use to kill herself. She did not take them. Her life - every moment of it - was valuable. The part of society who knew HER, not just a diagnosis or dollar sign, valued her and every memory created. This devaluation of life is a dangerous, slippery slope. How far will it go? Life is valuable- every moment of it. Fear of what the end might look like and a desire to control (which is common with fear and anxiety) cannot dictate our laws. Other supports could be provided for compassionate end of life care. Do not let fear or greed be the basis of how we govern our land. That is not a dignified life.

Thank you for your consideration,
Stephanie Teahn