

Submitter:

PAMELA BRIDGEHOUSE

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1003

I watched four family members die of cancer. As painful as it was, death came at just the right moment. The advances in pain management medications and techniques have added some measure of merciful relief. Terminal illness changes the lives of everyone around the dying person. Our culture values productivity and terminally ill people are not materially productive. There are values beyond the ability to care for oneself or be of material usefulness. There is intrinsic value in life and relationships. Relationships often reach their deepest in the last days of life.

Taking the life of an innocent person is a prosecutable offense. It is hypocritical to try and convict people for murder or manslaughter while allowing people to assist terminally ill people in taking their own life. I believe that assisting someone to take their own life is damaging to the moral character of our community, our state, and our nation. We need to value life from conception to natural death.

I urge a 'no' vote on SB1003.