

Submitter: Dr. George Griggs FCCP

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1003

As a Pulmonary Critical Care physician for many years, I've seen many patients with critical illness. I've also seen many patients with terminal illnesses including cancer and ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). With these illnesses patients often become depressed. As a physician I have been committed to relieve suffering. But to actually take a patient's life, or to assist a patient to take their own life is murder, something that is morally wrong. When I became a physician I took the Hippocratic Oath. I am totally opposed to allow any physician to participate in ending a patient's life. To relieve suffering with narcotic medications, even if that will shorten a patient's life is morally right and completely different from actually taking patients lives. Determining what is terminal illness and suffering to permit taking a patient's life is dangerous. It is a slippery slope that will allow murder of many at the convenience of others. I strongly oppose this legislation that will allow murder at the convenience of others.