

Submitter:	Dr R Paul Post MD FAAFP AAME
On Behalf Of:	Self
Committee:	Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB1003

I oppose SB 1003 on the basis of three major points:

- 1) It broadens the definition of who can prescribe lethal drugs: It is difficult even for well trained physicians to determine who has a terminal condition, and who may have a treatable condition such as depression. If you open the door for nurse practitioners and physician assistants to facilitate assisted suicide, this could open a Pandora's box of this procedure being foisted on patients inappropriately.
- 2) Mandates Promotion of Assisted Suicide by Healthcare Facilities: Hospice hospitals and other facilities would be required to disclose in writing the availability of assisted suicide before a patient is admitted. This is a subtle form of coercion to those with disabilities to make them think they are a burden on society.
- 3) It shortens the existing 15-day waiting period to just seven days, and in cases of "imminent death" allows drugs to be administered within 48 hours. This undermines critical time for evaluation and discernment , especially for patients facing mental health challenges, grief or treatable conditions. What is the great need to rush the process?