

Please oppose HB403 End of Life Option Act.

Assisted Suicide legislation puts Maryland's most vulnerable populations at risk- including individuals with disabilities, minorities, those experiencing poverty, individuals being treated for or have a history of mental illness, our veterans, and those suffering from prescription or other drug addictions.

Lawmakers nationwide reject Assisted Suicide. The Maryland General Assembly has rejected some form of this bill at least six times. Your peers made their legislative intent very clear that Assisted Suicide is a criminal act and should remain so.

Maryland's leading disability rights groups recognize the many dangers the bill poses to those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The American Medical Association has always opposed this. No doctor or nurse is required to be present when the patient ingests the lethal dose. If something goes wrong, any physical or emotional complications must be handled solely by the patient and those witnessing the death.

Taxpayers foot the bill to pay for the lethal drugs and doctor visits.

For these reasons, please oppose HB403. Thank you.