Testimony in Support of SB 845 -End-Of-Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act)

TO: Senator Will Smith, Jr, Chair and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Dina Miller, Member, Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland DATE: March 7, 2023

I am an 86 year old female with multiple cancers and severe breathing problems. I was very fortunate and made it through COVID, however many of my friends did not. I am at a point now where I need to start thinking about how I'm going to die.

I want to do it with dignity. I do not want to ever want to go to a hospital again. I do not drive anymore. I cannot shop for myself. I have difficulty if I bend over because of the breathing problems. Right now I am still living by myself, however I have no idea how much longer I can do that. When I am ready to give up my apartment I do not want to live with any of my children because I do not want to be a burden.

All of my children and grandchildren are in accord with my wishes, which are to die with dignity. This means in a way where I won't be in pain and I can peacefully leave the earth. I don't have to go to the hospital. I don't have to be resuscitated. I don't have to do all the things that they do to keep people alive for no good reason at my age.

I would truly ask you to pass the SB 845 - End-Of-Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act as it would affect me and any friends that I have left - which out of my whole group is only two.

Thank you, **Dina Miller** Member, Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland