

Written Testimony Of Kim Chambers
Submitted to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
On SB845
End-of-Life-Option Act
(The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act)
March 6, 2013

Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my written testimony to this committee in opposition of SB845, the End-of-Life-Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act).

This bill is condoning murder, murder in the First Degree and also, is not a socially acceptable behavior.

The Bible states, Thou shalt not kill. Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 5:17; Matthew 5:21; Mark 10:19; Romans 13:9 and James 2:11.

Our own laws state murder is illegal and is subject to punishment.

The Maryland General Assembly defines murder as...under "§2-201.

(a) A murder is in the first degree if it is:

(1) a deliberate, premeditated, and willful killing;

(2) committed by lying in wait;

(3) committed by poison;

b) (1) A person who commits a murder in the first degree is guilty of a felony and on conviction shall be sentenced to:

(i) imprisonment for life without the possibility of parole; or

(ii) imprisonment for life.

(2) Unless a sentence of imprisonment for life without the possibility of parole is imposed in compliance with § 2-203 of this subtitle and § 2-304 of this title, the sentence shall be imprisonment for life.

(c) A person who solicits another or conspires with another to commit murder in the first degree is guilty of murder in the first degree if the death of another occurs as a result of the solicitation or conspiracy.

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgaweb/Laws/StatuteText?article=gcr§ion=2-201>

So please tell me how this bill differs from murder with malicious intent forethought. If a “loved one” and I use the term loosely, agrees and maybe gets the drugs, shouldn’t they be found a conspirator?

Are you treating people no better than an animal, that can be euthanized at the drop of a hat?

Why does this deny life sustaining care? Why are there no standard requirements for mental health screening/counseling? Why are there no safeguards to ensure that drugs stay out of hands of children? Why is there no doctor or nurse required to be present when the person ingests the lethal dose? If the person is alone, who will know? How long will the person be in their surrounding before they are found? Why should taxpayers foot the bill to pay for this? Why are you making it easier for the poor, disabled and uninformed choose suicide?

For the above statements and reasons listed, I strongly encourage the members of this committee to stop this bill.

Thank you for your time,

Kim Chambers