

Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chair  
and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Maryland State Senate  
Annapolis, MD

RE: SB0845- End-of-Life Option Act- **OPPOSE**

Dear Senator Smith and Members of the Committee,

I have seen, and opposed, many far-reaching, extremely outrageous, and, to be truthful, absolutely idiotic proposals for legislation over the past few years but, this is the most egregious to date! Why would anyone even consider making it legal to kill themselves? Not only that, but to put in place legal protection for any health care worker that assists in this process?! I cannot express how urgent it is that you oppose SB0845! Please consider the following:

- SB0845 opens the door for **legal** manslaughter! Even though this bill requires that the person asking for assistance in dying be able to self-administer the drugs, and that the request be voluntary, there is no way to be sure that a person is not pressured to take this action. It should be obvious that such a law will be misused by some dishonest medical personnel, or those who feel strongly about the issue and think their moral stance dictates that they break or stretch the law.
- Denying treatment to ill, elderly, or disabled individuals is inhumane. The broad language used in this bill has led to cases in some US states of people being denied treatment for cancer because it was deemed not appropriate for their condition. Instead, they were offered drugs, or psychologically pressured to take drugs, to end their lives. There have been instances of disabled individuals in other states who were pressured to end their lives through physician counseling

SB0845 is outrageously inhumane and widens the possibility of immoral acts against humanity! I pray that you reconsider SB0845 and render an UNFAVORABLE report for this bill.

Thank you for your time,

Sarah Price (ACRWC)  
Westernport, MD (Allegany County)