SB845/HB933 SUPPORT End–of–Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act)

Judicial Proceedings Committee Tuesday, March 7, 2023 – 1:00 PM

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldsteicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Arnold Clem. I live in Baltimore City. This is an important opportunity for elected officials to grant individuals control over the healthcare options available when suffering from a terminal illness. I am very concerned about the state impeding deeply personal, medical decisions that should exist between patients and their physicians. I strongly urge you to support SB845/HB933: End–of–Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act).

Medical aid in dying will serve to alleviate the suffering of competent adults who make the decision to end their suffering at a time. No one should be forced to suffer through a terminal illness. By affording individuals suffering from a terminal illness the option to end their suffering through the processes outlined in the End–of–Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act), you would grant them the dignity and comfort of knowing that they control their own decisions related to their suffering. This act is important to ensure that all individuals suffering from a terminal illness have the ability to decide what is best for them to maintain their dignity and end their suffering. Please do the right thing and allow individuals suffering from a terminal illness the opportunity to make their own medical decisions with their physicians.

I urge you to support your constituents suffering from terminal illnesses by allowing them the option to maintain their dignity and make their own end-of-life decisions with their physicians. I urge you to support SB845/HB933, the End–of–Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act).