

Support SB 433 Diane Teichert

Esteemed legislators, except for my facial droop, you can't tell that I am a stroke survivor with hemiplegia and therefore use a mobility scooter. So, I very much appreciate this chance, via video, to exercise my right to testify before you as able-bodied people do.

As a person with disabilities, I ask you to support Senate Bill 433. The medical aid-in-dying and disability rights movements share important core values, high among them: self-determination.

It is clear to me that the provisions spelled out in this bill carefully protect against the possibility that my death, or that of anyone with disabilities, could be hastened by those who deem our lives not worth living. If that's your concern, please read the bill again.

I also come before you today as the daughter-in-law of a Baltimore man who died last spring at the age of 104. As we shared in our holiday letter to family and friends, "Had Maryland passed its End of Life Option Act, his anxiety about a painful death from heart failure would not have been so acute."

Please support Senate Bill 433, and give terminally ill Marylanders of sound mind the right to choose a medically-assisted death. Thank-you.

Sincerely,
Rev. Diane Teichert

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