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March 3, 2025

## **Esteemed Senators:**

I thank you for your time and careful consideration of this matter. My name is Catherine Simmons, and I am coming to you as a concerned citizen.

Like everyone, I too have my story. That's the thing-the unfortunate thing- that this issue unites us as humans far more than it divides us. How we deal with suffering and death shapes our lives in every action. The question you must decide- for yourselves, and for the people for whom you make decisions- is this: Is life always worthwhile, or is there a point at which it's ok to give up?

We live in a society in despair. Mental health is frighteningly low; relationships are fractured; people turn to drugs to escape. If you pass this bill to allow people to leave when life is at its most difficult, what message does that send to those who are already low?

We humans do not live only for ourselves but are part of something bigger, greater than us, and every minute of our lives has a meaning that ripples out to affect everyone. Every minute, even- and perhaps especially- the impossibly difficult ones. Do not give up in your own lives, and do not allow the people you serve to give up.

Please report Unfavorable on SB926.

Sincerely,

Catherine Simmons