

Roberta DiMezza

From: Lambert, Clyde J <clamber4@friars.providence.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:27 PM
To: Rep. Craven, Robert E.; Rep. McEntee, Carol Hagan; Rep. Knight, Jason; Rep. Ajello, Edith H.; Rep. Batista, Jose F.; Rep. Bennett, David A.; Rep. Caldwell, Justine A.; Rep. Casimiro, Julie A.; Rep. Corvese, Arthur J.; Rep. Cruz, Cherie L.; Rep. Dawson, Matthew S.; Rep. Felix, Leonela; Rep. Hopkins, Marie A.; Rep. Noret, Thomas E.; Rep. Place, David J.; House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Regarding the Compassionate Care Act
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hello,

My name is Clyde Lambert, and I am a freshman at Providence College. I am emailing you to voice my stern opposition to Bill H5219, the so-called "Lila Manfield Sapinsley Compassionate Care Act."

This bill is nothing other than an attempt to legalize assisted suicide, which violates not only my values but also the basic human right to life. Suicide is always a tragic occurrence. However, this law would make suicide not only legal but an encouraged choice for those in pain. This legalizes discrimination, creating a class of people for whom suicide is prevented at all costs and another class where suicide is legally enabled.

In addition, it opens the door to coercion of the elderly, sick, and vulnerable towards an irreparable and irreversible choice by family members and doctors, especially when combined with our for-profit healthcare system, where keeping a person alive is often much more costly than assisted suicide.

Lastly, the consequences of passing assisted suicide bills can be seen in nations like Canada and Denmark, where tens of thousands die from assisted suicide yearly, some of whom are healthy individuals who are allowed make this choice because of homelessness or mental illness.

For these reasons and more, it is essential that you, as members of the Rhode Island House Judiciary Committee, vote against H5219 and protect the lives of the vulnerable in our great state.

Thank you,
Clyde Lambert