

Roberta DiMezza

From: Kenneth Orabone <korabone@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 6:43 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Re: Please pass the Lila Manfield Sapinsley Compassionate Care Act

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House Judiciary Committee,

I wanted to append one final thought I had after hitting send.

Imagine a future where Rhode Island still does not allow individuals to die with dignity. Now imagine that I am at the end of my life, with a painful terminal disease.

In this situation, you have condemned me to slowly wither away, between bouts of pain and opioids, until I draw my last breath or have to travel to another far away state in order to die with dignity. Travel, accommodations, managing new doctors, etc. can be stressful enough, but now I will be forced to do all this while in pain and dying, just to obtain the dignified death I believe I deserve. I call that exceptionally unfair to myself and all those who would choose this option.

Thank you again for considering my comments,
Ken Orabone.

On Mon, Feb 10, 2025 at 6:31 PM Kenneth Orabone <korabone@gmail.com> wrote:

House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in support of passing the Lila Manfield Sapinsley Compassionate Care Act.

As an aging Rhode Island resident, I urge you to give this act a public hearing and pass the bill through the House Judiciary Committee. This bill is extremely important to me and those I love. I do not wish, should it come down to a long illness, to needlessly suffer at the end of my life, nor should anyone else be forced to suffer in this way if they do not wish to do so.

Unfortunately, we treat our pets more humanely than we do our fellow human beings when they are at the end of their lives. We see the suffering in our pets and, for most of us, we do not want their last days to be filled with pain. However, we do not give our human companions the same option, forcing people to suffer in agony until the end. Why?

Advancing this bill would bring us one step closer to giving over 1 million people in the state the right to end their lives peacefully, in a dignified way, should they become sick with a terminal illness. Why this should be in any way controversial in this day and age is beyond me and it is incomprehensible that you would not move forward with this bill.

Thank you again for supporting this issue because, unless you forgot, we will all die and, unfortunately for most of us, that end is not pleasant nor dignified for many many people.

Yours sincerely,

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