

Roberta DiMezza

From: Maryanne Connell <Maryanne.econnell@protonmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:31 AM
To: 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; Rep. Bennett, David A.; Rep. Knight, Jason; Rep. Corvese, Arthur J.; Rep. Batista, Jose F.; Rep. Ajello, Edith H.; Rep. Casimiro, Julie A.; Rep. Caldwell, Justine A.; Rep. McEntee, Carol Hagan; Rep. Craven, Robert E.
Cc: William Connell, Jr.; alerts@rirtl.org
Subject: Urgent Opposition to the Lila Mansfield Sapinsley Compassionate Care Act (2025-H5219)

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Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a deeply concerned citizen and a steadfast pro-life advocate to express my strong opposition to the proposed Lila Mansfield Sapinsley Compassionate Care Act (2025-H5219), which would legalize assisted suicide in Rhode Island. I respectfully urge you to vote against this bill, as well as any similar efforts that threaten to undermine our commitment to the sanctity of human life.

From my perspective, every human life is inherently valuable and must be protected from conception until natural death. Legalizing assisted suicide not only conflicts with this core belief but also risks eroding the moral foundation upon which our society is built. It sends a troubling message that the intrinsic worth of life can be diminished under certain circumstances, a stance that could have far-reaching implications for the most vulnerable members of our community.

Assisted suicide presents a dangerous precedent. Once we allow the state to sanction the deliberate ending of a human life, we open the door to a slippery slope where the protections for our most fragile lives might be further eroded. Instead of providing a legal means to hasten death, our focus should be on enhancing compassionate care through improved palliative services, robust support systems, and comprehensive pain management for those facing terminal illnesses.

I trust that your deliberations will consider not only the immediate effects of this legislation but also its long-term implications for our society. Upholding the value of every human life is a cornerstone of our shared values, and it is essential that our legal framework reflects this commitment.

Thank you for your service to the people of Rhode Island and for carefully considering my perspective. I respectfully ask that you vote against H5219 and work to ensure that our state continues to protect life at all stages.

Sincerely,

Maryanne Connell

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