ACTION ALERT!

9 March 2015 Physician Assisted Suicide Bill SB 128 In Committee. Letters and Calls Needed Now - OPPOSE

Sacramento – State Senator Bill Monning (D - Carmel) and Senator Lois Wolk (D -Davis) introduced bill SB 128, *End of Life*, in the state Senate to legalize physicianassisted suicide (PAS). SB 128 will be heard in the Senate Health Committee on March 25. Your letters and calls to committee members are needed now. Continue to send in signed Petitions against PAS. Download petition forms at <u>www.LifePriority.net</u>

When carefully examined, legalized PAS is seen to be contrary to the basic tenets of life, government and a civilized culture. It makes doctors into killers, destroying the medical ethic of "Do no harm." It victimizes the vulnerable, those who are disabled, frail, elderly and chronically ill. As demonstrated with the Oregon "Death With Dignity Act", after which SB 128 is modeled, a lethal prescription has been offered by the Oregon state health plan when medical treatment has been denied. This is medical rationing.

History shows that PAS is the pathway to euthanasia. Despite multiple safety measures instituted when Germany accommodated physician assisted suicide for those deemed unworthy of life, the path ended at Auschwitz. In the Netherlands PAS has resulted in euthanasia without patient consent, and Belgium has now legalized PAS for minors without parental consent. Some elderly patients in Holland forgo hospital treatment of common illness out of fear of not returning alive.

Despite public polls and PAS-proponent hype, physician assisted suicide legalization attempts in California over the past 3 decades have all met with defeat. In Oregon PAS was legalized with a 60% public approval vote, yet in the following 17 years has been used by 3/10 of 1 percent of people dying with the same underlying medical illness. With the societal risk so high, and usage so low, the question begs to be asked "Why is legalized physician assisted suicide even being considered?"

TAKE ACTION NOW!

Write, fax or e-mail your OPPOSITION to SB 128 to Members of the Senate Health Committee and to the Senate Health <u>Committee Consultant</u>. <u>Please pass this on</u>.

Senator Ed Hernandez (Chair) SD22 Senator Janet Nguyen (Vice Chair) Senator Isadore Hall, III SD35 Senator Holly J. Mitchell SD30 Senator Bill Monning SD17 Senator Jim Nielsen SD04 Senator Richard Pan SD06 Senator Richard D. Roth Senator Lois Wolk SD03 Senators: State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814 Ph 916-651-40xx Fax 916-651-49xx where xx is the Senator's district number (SDxx) Health Committee Consultant: Teri Boughton State Capitol, Room 2191, Sacramento, CA 95814 <u>Teri.Boughton@sen.ca.gov</u> Fax: 916-266-9438 Letters to the Consultant must be received by noon March 18 to be included in the Health Committee Bill Analysis.