

Written Testimony of Salesha Olson
in OPPOSITION of HB 1415 relating to end-of-life healthcare
January 30, 2021

As a bible-believing North Dakotan (born and raised), I strongly oppose HB 1415. The farther through this bill I read, the more my stomach began to churn. Calling this bill "end-of-life healthcare" might make it seem more acceptable to help a person commit suicide, however, it is still suicide. This isn't a healthcare bill, it is an elderly suicide bill.

I try to be understanding of those who are to the point in life where they're struggling to care for themselves, losing their cognitive abilities, and feeling ill or in pain constantly. I sympathize with them and I am the granddaughter of some who are struggling now. However, at no juncture in life is it acceptable for us to decide to play "god" and help a person end their life.

The potential for manipulation and misuse of the "acceptable practices" in this bill is enormous. We can do better than this for our terminally ill family members.

I am asking you to recommend a DO NOT PASS on HB 1415.

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