

From: Robyn Lauster <robynkcl@gmail.com>
Subject: HB 99

Message Body:

Dear Harriet:

I appreciate your sponsoring this bill making voluntary termination of life legal. My experience with my sister's death convinces me that this is a needed option in a compassionate society. In the 1980's, my sister, then 45 and suffering from cancer which had metastasized to her brain, chose to take medication at home, retaining control over her time and method of departure. She had undergone all the recommended surgeries and chemo, and was under a doctor's care for pain control. However, she was bedridden and given only a matter of days to live. She talked to me, to our father, and to a close cousin before deciding, collecting our opinions and support. I know she prepared her son, who was 16, her partner, her best friend, and others. I don't believe anyone tried to change her mind, but offered support. Although it was not legal in her state at the time, she had a close friend who was a medical doctor who made sure she had medication which would be appropriate. Her partner and best friend sat by her bedside until she had passed. Under the circumstances, it was the kindest, most loving thing anyone could do for her at that point. It should be an option available to everyone in similar circumstances. Thank you again for sponsoring this bill, and please feel free to use this email in any way to help support HB 99.