

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21

H.640

Introduced by Representatives Dunn of Essex, Bissonnette of Winooski,  
Botzow of Pownal, Buckholz of Hartford, Carr of Brandon,  
Christensen of Weathersfield, Christie of Hartford, Connor of  
Fairfield, Deen of Westminster, Donovan of Burlington,  
Gardner of Richmond, Gonzalez of Winooski, Head of  
South Burlington, Houghton of Essex, Howard of Rutland City,  
Jessup of Middlesex, Joseph of North Hero, Keenan of  
St. Albans City, Lanpher of Vergennes, Masland of Thetford,  
Murphy of Fairfax, Noyes of Wolcott, Ode of Burlington,  
O’Sullivan of Burlington, Poirier of Barre City, Sabilia of  
Dover, Squirrell of Underhill, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of  
Dorset, Sullivan of Burlington, Toleno of Brattleboro,  
Townsend of South Burlington, Troiano of Stannard, Walz of  
Barre City, Wood of Waterbury, Yacovone of Morristown, and  
Yantachka of Charlotte

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; end-of-life care; hospice services

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to specify that  
the right of a patient with a terminal illness to be informed of all available

1 options related to terminal care includes the right to a consultation regarding  
2 hospice services. It would also specify that a physician's failure to comply  
3 with the Patient's Bill of Rights for Palliative Care and Pain Management  
4 constitutes unprofessional conduct.

5 An act relating to the right to a hospice consultation

6 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

7 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 1871 is amended to read:

8 § 1871. PATIENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS FOR PALLIATIVE CARE AND  
9 PAIN MANAGEMENT

10 \* \* \*

11 (b) A patient with a terminal illness has the right:

12 (1) to be informed by a clinician of all available options related to  
13 terminal care, including a consultation regarding hospice services;

14 (2) to be able to request any, all, or none of these options; and

15 (3) to expect and receive supportive care for the specific option or  
16 options available.

17 \* \* \*

