

I am writing to offer my testimony in support of H75, specifically the inclusion of physician assistants and nurse practitioners. As a palliative care physician assistant, a long-time resident of our beautiful state, and a volunteer working directly with Medical Aid in Dying (MAiD) clients in southern Vermont, I bring both professional expertise and personal experience to this important discussion.

My work in palliative care has given me firsthand insight into the challenges faced by Vermonters with terminal illnesses. Every day, I witness the difficult journey these individuals and their families navigate. My experiences have reinforced my belief that compassionate end-of-life options, including Medical Aid in Dying, are essential components of comprehensive healthcare.

Through my volunteer work with MAiD clients in southern Vermont, I have had the privilege of supporting individuals who have made the deeply personal decision to utilize this option. These experiences have shown me both the importance of this choice for those who seek it and the current limitations and barriers that H75 aims to address.

The proposed modifications in H75 would significantly improve access to this important end-of-life option for qualifying Vermonters. Specifically, I support the bill's provisions that would allow physician assistants and nurse practitioners to prescribe to their patients that qualify for Act 39.

As both a healthcare provider and a Vermont resident for nearly three decades, I believe these changes align with our state's values of compassion, dignity, and respect for individual autonomy. Vermont has long been a leader in patient-centered care, and H75 represents a thoughtful evolution of our existing laws.

I am available to answer any questions you may have about my experiences or provide additional information that might be helpful in your deliberations.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to our state.

PS -I have drafted a letter of support that includes a link for signatures of support for these provisions in H75. I would like to embed a link or email address that would allow people to signify their interest in offering testimony. Is there a link that people can use to sign up for testimony? How would you like me to direct them for this service? I am attaching the letter as it is currently.

Sincerely,
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