

TO: The Hawaii House Committee on Health

FROM: Margaret Dore, Esq., MBA, President
Choice is an Illusion, a nonprofit corporation¹

RE: Reject SB 1129 S.D. 2

- No Assisted Suicide
- No Euthanasia
- Preserve Informed Consent
- Prevent People With Years to Live From Throwing Away Their Lives
- Stop Legal Elder Abuse
- Stop Legal Murder
- Don't Put Older People in the Crosshairs of Their Heirs and Other Predators

HEARING: **Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.**
State Capitol Conference Room 329
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu HI

MEMO
DATE: March 21, 2017

INDEX

I. INTRODUCTION 1

II. DEFINITIONS. 1

A. Physician-Assisted Suicide;
Assisted Suicide; and Euthanasia. 1

B. Withholding or Withdrawing Treatment 2

III. ELDER ABUSE 2

A. Elder Abuse Is a Pervasive Problem That
Includes the Financial Exploitation and
Murder of Older Adults 2

* Margaret Dore, Law Office of Margaret K. Dore, PS, Choice is an Illusion, a nonprofit corporation, www.margaretdore.com, www.choiceillusion.org 1001 4th Avenue, Suite 4400, Seattle, WA 98154, 206 697 1217

B.	Victims Rarely Report	3
IV.	ASSISTED SUICIDE AND EUTHANASIA	4
A.	Assisting Persons Can Have Their Own Agendas	4
B.	Few States Allow Assisted Suicide	4
C.	Other States Push Back.	5
V.	THE ACT	5
A.	How the Act Works	5
B.	A Comparison to Probate Law	6
C.	“Eligible” Persons May Have Decades to Live	6
1.	The six months to live is determined without treatment.. . . .	7
2.	Predictions of life expectancy can be wrong	8
3.	Treatment can lead to recovery	8
D.	Patients Will Lose the Right to Informed Consent: They Will Lose the Right to Be Told About Alternatives for Cure.. . . .	9
1.	Present law.	9
2.	The proposed act	9
E.	There Is No Requirement of Patient Voluntariness, Capability or Consent When the Lethal Dose Is Administered.. . . .	11
F.	Someone Else Is Allowed to Administer the Lethal Dose to the Patient: Self- Administration Is Not Required	12
G.	Allowing Someone Else to Administer the Lethal Dose Is Euthanasia	13
H.	The Bill Does Not Prohibit Euthanasia	13

I.	There Is a Complete Lack of Oversight at the Death..	14
J.	The Death Certificate Is Required to List a Terminal Disease as the Cause of Death, Which Prevents Prosecution for Murder..	15
K.	The Act Prevents Prosecution of Criminal Conduct for Actions Taken in "Accordance" with the Act	15
L.	If Hawaii Follows Washington State, There Will Be an Official Legal Cover Up.	16
VI.	OREGON IS NOT A VALID CASE STUDY	18
VII.	OTHER CONSIDERATIONS	18
A.	Compassion & Choices' Mission Is to Promote Suicide	18
B.	In Oregon, Other Suicides Have Increased With Legalization of Assisted Suicide; the Financial Cost is "Enormous"	19
C.	The Swiss Study: Legal Physician-Assisted Suicide Can Be Traumatic for Family Members..	20
D.	My Clients Suffered Trauma in Oregon and Washington State	21
E.	The Felony for Undue Influence Is Illusory and Unenforceable..	22
VIII.	CONCLUSION	22
APPENDIX		