

## Roberta DiMezza

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**From:** Kevin Cote <kcote127@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 26, 2026 4:50 PM  
**To:** Rep. Knight, Jason; Rep. Dawson, Matthew S.; Rep. Ajello, Edith H.; Rep. Batista, Jose F.; Rep. Bennett, David A.; Rep. Caldwell, Justine A.; Rep. Casimiro, Julie A.; Rep. Corvese, Arthur J.; Rep. Craven, Robert E.; Rep. Cruz, Cherie L.; Rep. Felix, Leonela; Rep. Hopkins, Marie A.; Rep. Noret, Thomas E.; Rep. Place, David J.; House Judiciary Committee; Rep. McEntee, Carol Hagan  
**Subject:** Oppose H7760 Lila Manfield Sapinsley Compassionate Care Act

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Honorable Representatives on the House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Kevin P. Cote, I live in Tiverton and I am writing this day to strongly urge all of you to reject the H7760 Lila Manfield Sapinsley Compassionate Care Act or any similar legislation. I find the naming of this bill to be perversely ironic given the fact if enacted it will most assuredly result in the total opposite of "compassionate care". This fact has become obvious from the multitude of documented abuses resulting from previous similar legislation in other states in this country, as well as Canada and Europe. Despite the sentimental appeal of alleviating the suffering of terminally ill individuals this legislation would open the door to a plethora of terrible abuses including among others:

- Pressure on terminally ill persons, especially the elderly, to avoid "being a burden" both emotionally and financially on their families, friends or caregivers.
- Added incentives for insurance companies and healthcare providers to deny care while offering assisted suicide coverage to bolster their profitability. This is the last thing we need given all the other problems stemming from our broken, profit-driven healthcare system!
- Threatening efforts to maintain & improve palliative care for long term and/or terminally ill people.
- Discouraging the addition of new, medical professionals as well as those already practicing in our state while we already face a shortage of physicians. Inevitably those who resist assisted suicide requests will be enticed or coerced into participating. It would be foolhardy to believe otherwise regardless of any supposed "safeguards".
- The very real threat of the proverbial "slippery slope", once this door opened where does it end? Regardless of all the guardrails written into this legislation there is no guarantee that they will not be gradually weakened over time especially as increasing health care costs and potentially declining federal commitment add political pressure.

For these and many other reasons of which I believe you are all aware I urge you to reject this abominable and immoral piece of legislation. Concluding, I have to ask why is this bill called the

Compassionate Care Act and not Compassionate Assisted Suicide which is what it actually is? I believe that we as a moral and rational people are better than this!!!

Sincerely, Kevin P Cote