

Roberta DiMezza

From: Masha Schiller <schillermasha@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 2:15 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Fwd: Support for H7760

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From: Masha Schiller <schillermasha@yahoo.com>
Date: April 29, 2026 at 7:54:56 AM EDT
To: HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov
Subject: Support for H7760

Dear Chair McEntee and honorable members of the House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Dr. Masha Schiller. I am writing to urge you to support H7790 (Ajello), which would establish the process to provide a legal mechanism whereby a terminally ill patient may choose to end their life using medications prescribed by a physician.

I am a friend and colleague of Dr. Leighanne Hohlstein whose statement is submitted for your consideration. She has ALS and is living bravely while confronting multiple unthinkable challenges. Not only is she acutely aware of her physical decline, but she is forced to worry about the end of life symptoms that are truly terrifying- potential choking, inability to swallow or breathe. While her quality of life is obviously impacted by the progression of symptoms, this tragically cannot be helped. However, the psychological torment of worrying about those end of life scenarios causes endless anxiety for herself and loved ones around her that is NOT inevitable. If she knew that she could be in control of timing such that she would never face a terrifying end of life, the time she is currently granted would be more peaceful - it would be a way to actually live the moments available. This gift is what is under consideration in the bill in front of you. Please pass it onto the House floor with a recommendation for passage!

Sincerely,
M. Masha Schiller, PhD
Clinical Psychologist