

Roberta DiMezza

From: MICHAEL ROCHA <mrocha18@cox.net>
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2026 8:40 PM
To: Rep. McEntee, Carol Hagan; 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
Subject: Strongly Oppose to H7760

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Subject

Strong Opposition to H7760 Strong Opposition to H7760

To the Honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

We are writing in reference to the upcoming bill H7760. Our names are Mike and Barbara Rocha of Little Compton, Rhode Island. We are both of the Catholic faith.

We strongly oppose any effort to legalize assisted suicide in Rhode Island and respectfully urge you to vote against H7760 and any similar legislation.

Legalizing assisted suicide raises serious ethical and societal concerns. It risks undermining the fundamental principle that every human life has inherent value, regardless of age, illness, or disability. At a time when vulnerable individuals—particularly the elderly, disabled, and those facing serious illness—may already feel like a burden, this legislation could introduce subtle but powerful pressures to choose death over care.

We are also deeply concerned about the potential for abuse and the difficulty of implementing adequate safeguards. Prognoses can be uncertain, and decisions made during moments of fear, depression, or inadequate support are not always truly voluntary. Expanding access to high-quality palliative care, pain management, and emotional support should be the priority, ensuring that no one feels that ending their life is their only option.

Rhode Island should continue to affirm a commitment to compassionate care, dignity, and protection for all residents, especially those most at risk. For these reasons, we respectfully but firmly ask that you vote against H7760.

One last thought – Our Family cared for my Dad for ten years prior his passing from this earth. We were fortunate to be at his bedside on those final moments. Just before he passed he looked at me with two tears in his eyes. I told him to go along, Mom was there waiting for him and we would all be fine. At that minute he

closed his eyes for the last time and his 7 children and their Families stood and watched him pass into Heaven.
There was no greater gift.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of our deep concerns.

Sincerely,

Mike and Barbara Rocha