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Letter in Opposition to AB 2747

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

Catholics for the Common Good strongly opposes AB 2747 because it is a duplicative, dangerous and unnecessary bill.

More specifically, AB 2747 presents the following problems:

1. The bill's sponsor, now called Compassion and Choices, has made three unsuccessful attempts to legalize physician-assisted suicide over the last three years. Now, with AB 2747, they are trying to nibble at the edges in an attempt to lay legal groundwork for their sinister long-term goals.
2. It duplicates current law mandating licensed health care providers to provide end-of-life options to their patients. Additionally, you have already signed legislation on end-of-life care directives in AB 3000, the POLST bill, which was supported by many groups opposing AB 2747.
3. It is dangerous because it opens the door for medical directors of healthcare facilities to refer patients to agencies that specialize in end-of-life consultation that would include advocates of assisted suicide and euthanasia like Compassion and Choices and the Final Exit Network. This would create a conflict of interest for facilities trying to save costs due to capitated reimbursement.

Catholics for the Common Good is joining a broad coalition opposing AB 2747, a coalition that includes California Disability Alliance, California Foundation for Independent Living Centers, CA League of United American Citizens, La Raza Roundtable de California, Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund and other statewide organizations.

We urge you to veto AB 2747.

For the common good,

William B. May
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