



February 19, 2018

The Honorable Brad Wenstrup
2419 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative Wenstrup,

Family Policy Alliance and our network of 40 state-based family policy councils have been working to influence public policy, through grassroots advocacy and through our work at state legislatures and Congress, since the late 1980s. Our organizations submit this letter in support of your legislation, House Concurrent Resolution 80, and urge Congress to swiftly pass this resolution, as nearly 40 pieces of legislation that would legalize assisted suicide have already been filed in 20 states for this legislative session.

Our organizations firmly believe that **every life is worth fighting for**, regardless of health condition, disability, socioeconomic status, or other factors. We have long opposed state efforts to legalize assisted suicide, and we appreciate that your resolution notes that “30 States have rejected over 200 attempts at legalization since 1994.” Last year alone, 27 states faced assisted suicide threats, but all of these states ultimately rejected the proposals—including Hawaii where the leading proponents of assisted suicide, Compassion and Choices, spent over one million dollars alone and instituted a court case.

The states’ repeated rejection of assisted suicide demonstrates that Americans understand that despite the sensationalizing of assisted suicide, legalizing the practice would cause more harm than good—particularly for those with serious health conditions or disabilities, for those who already suffer from depression or thoughts of suicide, for the elderly, and for the integrity of the medical profession. Your resolution is needed immediately to provide support for these states as they continue to resist pressure from special interest groups to legalize assisted suicide.

Your resolution sends an important message to the country: Our leaders believe that working together to provide greater access to care when Americans need it most is a higher priority than abandoning our most vulnerable to hopelessness. We can do better than assisted suicide when it comes to caring for those approaching the end of life.

Thank you for your leadership to advance quality care over assisted suicide. We will continue to urge Congress to quickly pass your resolution. Please do not hesitate to let us know how we can assist you with your work on H. Con. Res. 80.

Sincerely,

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