

March 17, 2021

The Honorable Richard Pan
Chair, Senate Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 2191
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 380 (Eggman) - Oppose

Dear Senator Pan:

The Alliance of Catholic Health Care, which represents California's Catholic-affiliated health systems and hospitals, must oppose SB 380 (Eggman), that amends the End of Life Option Act (EOLOA). The authors of the original 2015 legislation committed to "build protections in this [measure] that are stronger than the protections in any of the states where this has been practiced" and emphasized that participation in the Act would "allow **voluntary** participation by physicians, pharmacists and health care facilities." Less than five years after the implementation of the EOLOA, SB 380 would weaken or remove the very "safeguards" included to secure the support for the original measure, and would severally limit or eliminate the protections of physicians and health facilities who chose not to participate in the Act.

Further, we believe the author and Legislature may want to consider adding in additional transparency provisions to ensure more data is readily available to stakeholders. The state does not report on all of the data elements it currently collects on EOLOA, which has been an area of concern for both proponents and opponents, and other stakeholders. We believe that the state has a duty to be as transparent as possible in sharing the EOLOA data. We understand there have been requests of the California Department of Public Health to either report on all of the data collected on the state-mandated forms (as other states with similar laws allow) or release the de-identified data to independent researchers to analyze. The data would help the state, researchers, and others to evaluate and monitor trends in the use of the law.

For these reasons, we must oppose SB 380 (Eggman).

Sincerely,



Lori Cappello Dangberg
Vice President

cc: Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman
Honorable Members, Senate Health Committee



*Representing California's Catholic
Health Systems and Hospitals*