IT'S NOT ABOUT SUICIDE P.A.S. = Paid Assassins Statewide

STOP Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS) in Maryland
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Dear Fellow Marylander:

I am Dr. James Kelly. I have been a physician and a psychiatrist for over **35** years. I want to make you aware of a bill soon to be presented to the Maryland State Legislature in Annapolis. If the bill is passed in this upcoming 2022 legislative session, it would legalize doctors to kill their patients!!! And get paid for it!! If this bill is passed, a doctor could legally kill you, your children, or your loved ones when you are the most vulnerable and feeling your worst! Proponents of this legalized "doctor-murder" call this Physician Assisted Suicide, or PAS.

It's a nice sounding camouflage for killing people who are depressed and distressed. Notice the use of their three nice sounding words in the name. They use the honorable title of "physician," which for thousands of years has meant the trusted person who is sworn to help you and never harm you. They use the word "assisted." The word assisted means that you give aid, care, and concern for the others' benefit, and NEVER to kill. They use the word "suicide" to distract you and to reduce your anxiety by trying to separate murder from suicide. Why? Because the average person could easily ignore this threat by saying that "we are never going to have suicide in my family, so it doesn't concern me or my family". But this bill is NOT about suicide! This bill is about doctors committing murder, not suicide. This bill is about paying doctors to become assassins.

Suicide is killing yourself. Suicide is NOT someone else killing you. Someone else killing you is murder. And when a doctor kills you, it is "murder by doctor". Suicide has been around since the dawn of humanity and will continue to be around. It is a tragedy, but it is NOT at all what this bill is about. If someone wants to commit suicide, there are millions of ways they can do it on their own. And you don't need a doctor or anyone else to kill yourself. You don't need a law from the legislator to kill yourself. So please DO NOT get distracted by legal terms, or nice sounding words, or diversions.

A more accurate term for P.A.S. is *Paid Assassins Statewide*. Because literally, for the first time in Maryland history, this bill will change doctors forever from being exclusively healers to paying them to become paid assassins on a statewide basis.

Almost every day for 35 years I have talked to people who have attempted suicide, who are currently thinking of suicide, and who will attempt suicide or will kill themselves. So, I know suicide and I know about saving people from suicide and treating hopelessly despairing depressed suicidal people who are at their wits' end and have given up all hope. So again, this bill is NOT about mental health, end of life care, or pain management. This bill is NOT about suicide. This bill is about empowering, weaponizing, and commercializing healthcare professionals to leave their role of helping people and moving to a new job of killing people. Instead of continuing to help people, the doctor will now be authorized and paid to murder people. This bill weaponizes doctors, hospitals, and the entire healthcare system to become the assassins. And once the government gives the entire healthcare industry, starting with doctors, the legal authorization to murder people, we have now authorized and approved our entire healthcare industry (that was once exclusively dedicated to saving lives) to kill.

The proponents of this bill hope that you will be distracted by the nice sounding name of PAS or "physician assisted suicide." They hope you think this bill doesn't apply to you and that it only applies to other people who are mentally ill, at end of life, in terrible pain or "crazy" so that you will not be concerned at all and go about your daily lives. But the reality is that once you give power of killing to an entire industry and legally authorized murder, starting with a single exception, soon there will be another exception, and another exception. And there will be many reasons why your doctor and the healthcare industry will soon be legally billing surviving family members and insurance companies to kill. All physicians know it's a whole lot easier to a give up on a patient then to keep fighting to save someone. So instead of struggling to save people in pain, "just kill them because it's now legal." It would become quite easy and profitable for a doctor to devote his entire practice to killing people.

Think about how low his malpractice bill would be because the worst thing that he could do is kill someone and that is what he's being paid do. The doctor wouldn't have to know much of anything! He wouldn't have to keep up on medical treatment or management, would only need to know how to kill. We want to continue to trust our doctors to give good advice and to do what's best for you even if and when we no longer know what is best for ourselves. And I, as one physician, would like to keep it that way forever for all people. We should forcefully oppose any bill that permits doctors under any circumstances to kill their patients. Doctors, nurses, and the healthcare system should continue to be devoted to helping people and never given a legal excuse to kill people under any circumstances!!

Please join our fight to protect you, your family, and all Marylanders. Maryland Right to Life is the primary organization leading this fight. Visit them at https://www.mdrtl.org/. Their head lobbyist is Laura Bogley, a resident of the Eastern Shore. Please feel free to call Laura at (410) 443-8298 or email her laura.bogley@gmail.com to find out how you can help.

My email is <u>JamesKellyDr@Gmail.com</u>. Please educate yourself about this issue. Talk to your friends, family, coworkers. Share this letter with your Maryland state senators, Maryland state delegates, friends, family, neighbors, doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians' assistants, pastors, or anyone else. And ask them to likewise continue to forward this information so that people can be aware so that when the bill (which has not yet been assigned a number) is submitted in January or February 2022 to the Maryland state legislature, we will be prepared. Those of us preparing for this fight are looking for **anyone** willing to help.

I know most of us are very busy. I have an extremely busy practice on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Most may only be able to offer limited involvement such as calling your state senator and delegates, or making a phone call, or forwarding an email, or coming to a meeting. Others may be able to have more involvement such as going to a committee meeting in Annapolis or sharing in the leadership or training of others. Whatever you are willing to do, no matter how large or how small, we need any assistance that only **YOU** can give us.

PAS has already been legalized in **11** states, so there is **ample reason to believe** it could be legalized in Maryland soon! That is why it's so important for us to prepare now, before it is too late! Please contact **Laura Bogley** or me to help. We should all contact our local Maryland state senators and our local Maryland state house of delegates by email, letter, and phone to let them know that we do not want Physician Assisted Suicide or any other form of doctor-murder in the state of Maryland, ever! Thank you.

Sincerely, Dr. James E. Kelly