

Respect Life Society Bulletin – July 24, 2016

Physician Assisted Suicide – Unnecessary, Flawed and Dangerous

Legislation has been introduced in the NY State Legislature that would allow doctors to legally prescribe a lethal dose of pills at the request of a terminally ill patient. The Legislature ended its session mid-June and will not convene until January. This bill will come up again and again. We must learn more about physician assisted suicide so we, as Catholics, can respond to those who want NY to become the next state to allow it. New York must maintain its ban on assisted suicide. Here's why. 1. There is no screening or counseling for depression. 2. There are no safeguards at the time of ingestion. 3. It opens the door to elder abuse and coercion. 4. A terminal prognosis is difficult to predict. 5. It turns doctors into killers. 6. There is no accountability. 7. It sends the message that suicide is acceptable. 8. It discriminates against people with disabilities. 9. It really is a slippery slope. 10. There are increasing financial incentives to limit care. There are alternatives to assisted suicide.