

Alan Garber  
Bethel  
LD 613

Dear members of the Health and Human Service Committee:

I live in and practice critical care and palliative care in Maine and I wholeheartedly support LD-613.

I have come across a number of cases where the requisite waiting period interfered with the ability to access MAID. This has either been due to the abrupt and unpredictable change in clinical course with subsequent rapid deterioration or the delayed change in the patient's goals of care which ends up not allowing enough time to access compassionate MAID care.

I know that palliative care is an integral part of quality care for end-of-life patients. And for some terminal patients MAID can be an effective component of palliative care. LD 613 can help bring relief to those who cannot abide by the waiting period; having a physician be able to waive the waiting period is another step in providing humane end of life care

Thank you for your time. I am hopeful that you will support LD 613 as I do. I would welcome any questions and feel free to contact me either by my cell or email

Respectfully,  
Alan Garber, MD