

Diane Coveny
Brunswick
LD 613

Dear Esteemed Committee Members,

I am writing to implore you to pass LD 613. Having personally sat by the bed of loved ones as they were dying, I can attest to the heartache, they and us suffered.

My cousin died yesterday. Not in Maine. I kept thinking of our Death with Dignity Law. And the 17 day waiting period. Three weeks ago he asked for his physician to please help him. The physician could not. At that time my cousin had the capacity to pick up a glass and drink. Two weeks ago he could no longer do anything without help. He was cognitively aware. How demoralizing for him and how utterly hopeless the family was to do anything. My thoughts went to the 17 day waiting period and Waivers. If he had died in Maine, his Physician could have eased his journey if LD613 had been in effect.

I am fortunate that I live in Maine and if and when the time comes and I am given a terminal prognosis I would hope my family and I would not need to follow what my cousin just went through. The passage of LD 613 would ease the minds of all connected.

Please, please pass LD 613 and allow the attending physicians the ability to waive the 17 days period if they know it is the right thing to do.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Diane Coveny
Brunswick Maine 04011