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First, I am writing this on my phone the night before, so forgive my grammar. I am a hospice nurse, and I cannot tell you the number of times my patients have been heartbroken to learn they were too late to enroll in death with dignity. The fourteen day period makes sense until you think about all of the patients who are waiting until their final days to make this determination. So often they decide just days too late. Many people become confused about the role of hospice and think we are able to help speed up the process (we can't, we can only reduce discomfort). I don't know if you have witnessed someone die on hospice, but it often happens with excruciating slowness. Few are prepared for how long it may take, it is often days of congested, "death rattle" breathing, and I have even seen it take weeks. This is with significant doses of morphine and other comfort drugs administered frequently. Death is a part of life, and these circumstances cannot and should not always be avoided. But many of my patients final wishes are to spare their family the agony of taking care of them as they die. And the waiting period eliminates that ability for so many people. Please consider them in this decision..