

Honorable Members of Montana's 64'th Legislature House
Judiciary Committee;

My Name is Berniece Stulc. I am a Geriatric Nurse , live
in Belgrade, Mt and work in Bozeman.

I support HB 328. It is precisely the law I wish had been
in place in Oregon in 2009. My father, a Montana WW11
Omaha Beach Vet was dying of End Stage Lung Disease. It
speaks directly to "coercion" such as he experienced and in
the end resisted! I had been denied the opportunity to attend
a Care conference between my sister-in-law and his Case
Managers. Dad was not invited EITHER! Long Story Short
It seems he was rapidly running out of funds for his care.
This was the argument "for" assisted ending of his life. I
made an unscheduled visit to him in Oregon. When I asked
him if he really wanted to do this he said "No, I just do not
want you kids to suffer." I was there to answer his questions
about the dying process and assure him I would care for him.
If I had not been informed about Physician assisted Suicide
and Oregon policy ,I may have been too late. Too late to
spend those precious days with him, caring for him as he did
for me when I needed him as an infant. He passed away
peacefully and comfortably without the drugs. The
"SLIPPERY SLOPE" is truly a KILLER.

I have attached an article from the Internet. I have
Highlighted a LIE for you on the second page. Please Vote
YEA to HB328 and pass it onto the House floor.

Thank YOU for YOUR Service Berniece Stulc
Belgrade,Mt



TOP STORIES

BELGIUM

Belgium approves assisted suicide for minors

The Belgian parliament has voted to allow children access to assisted suicide. Despite strong opposition from religious organizations and some doctors, the legislation had enjoyed widespread popular support.



The vote on Thursday by Belgium's House of Representatives removed all age restrictions on the right of the incurably sick to end their lives, a vote that has caused considerable controversy.

Ahead of the vote, Socialist Senator Philippe Mahoux, the author of Belgium's 2002 "right to die" legislation and himself a doctor, called euthanasia "the ultimate gesture of humanity" and "not a scandal." He added that "the scandal is illness and the death of children from disease."

Mahoux had called for widening his law to include minors because medics had already helped children in pain die as a question of mercy - just illegally. The draft bill had stated that a child must have "a capacity of discernment and be conscious" on requesting to die.

'Hopeless medical situation'

According to the law, the child must "be in a hopeless medical situation of constant and unbearable

December after the upper house consulted with dozens of medical specialists, lawyers and interest groups.

In the debate leading up to this final vote in the lower house, the Catholic Church protested and about 160 pediatricians petitioned lawmakers to postpone the vote.

Assisted suicide elsewhere

Euthanasia laws [have proved controversial in the EU](#). The European Court of Human Rights leaves it up to [individual nations to decide](#).

In the Netherlands, the first country to legalize euthanasia, sick children 12 years and older may decide their own fates, but parents have the final say for kids 16 and younger. The Netherlands has only had five cases of child euthanasia since the law went into effect there in 2002.

Adult euthanasia is allowed Benelux-wide, with Luxembourg having legalized the end-of-life decision in 2009. Switzerland allows assisted suicide, so long as the person dying completes the act him- or herself. France will consider legalizing euthanasia later this year.

[The US states of Montana, Oregon, Vermont and Washington allow assisted suicide. In 2006, the Supreme Court rejected an attempt by the US government to abolish Oregon's Death with Dignity Act.](#)

mkg/hc (Reuters, AFP, dpa)

DW RECOMMENDS

Belgian lawmakers vote on euthanasia for kids

Belgium's second house of parliament is set to decide on legalizing active medically assisted suicide for children. The planned expansion of the euthanasia law for adults has been hotly debated for months. (13.02.2014)

Europe split on right-to-die regulations

Thus far, the European Union has kept its hands off the law books when it comes to a blanket regulation of right-to-die regulations in member states. DW takes a look at the varying attitudes amongst EU members. (13.02.2014)

European court rules on euthanasia debate

The European Court of Human Rights issued a decision Thursday on whether states may refuse to assist in a suicide. Germany's laws on assisted suicide draw a fine line between what's permitted, and what's not. (19.07.2012)

Date 13.02.2014

Keywords [Belgium](#), [euthanasia](#), [Socialist Party](#), [Philippe Mahoux](#), [right to die](#), [Liberal Party](#)

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