

**9:00 AM in Room 303**  
**Remarks: YES on SB 202**

It is my opinion that opposition to protection of my right to death with dignity is UNCONSCIONABLE ~~and morally reprehensible~~ and morally reprehensible. There are Montana legislators who believe that physicians should be criminally prosecuted for complying with the wishes of dying patients wanting to ease their suffering by ending their lives. 69% of Montanans disagree.

Death with dignity, as ruled by Montana's Supreme Court five years ago in the *Baxter* case, is authorized and legal. Many physicians across Montana have prescribed medication for aid in dying, within boundaries set by the Court: patient must be a terminally ill adult, must be mentally competent, must self-administer the medication.

Many Montanans have utilized death with dignity. Others have gained peace of mind knowing the option is available, legal and

**understood by their physicians.**

**Lawmakers waste time and taxpayer money on scare tactics and fabrications every two years, instead of accepting the people's will and following Montana's proud history of freedom from government interference in citizen's private lives. Democrats and Republicans voting together in previous sessions have turned away attempts to take away our right to die peacefully.**

**Oregon's common sense legislation has a seventeen year record which has shown the sound policy and good medical practice of death with dignity. Opponents' fears have never been realized.**

**Senate Bill 202 follows Oregon's lead, calms fear of abuse and maintains our right to die peacefully. It also further defines what the Supreme Court found in 2009 - that Montanans who are terminally ill have the right to seek aid in dying - and provides guidelines for doctors who provide aid in dying.**

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**Please vote YES on SB 202**