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**Physician Assisted Death**

**MHPCA Comment**

**February 3, 2015**

Missouri Hospice & Palliative Care Association takes no position regarding physician assisted death.

Among our member organizations there exists a wide range of beliefs on this matter.

As hospices, we exist neither to hasten nor postpone death.

As the provider of care to over 37,000 Missourians each year, we are committed to the relief of suffering and the promotion of quality of life, however each person defines it.

We acknowledge and appreciate that people of good will can hold differing beliefs on this subject.

In keeping with hospices’ historic respect for the autonomy, dignity and personal choices of the patient, we judge no one for the position they might hold on this sensitive issue.

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