

Dear Member of Provincial Parliament

As your constituent, I am writing to express my deep concern regarding conscience rights. I understand that the Ontario government has introduced Bill 84, *Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) Statute Law Amendment Act* which, at present, does not provide conscience protection for doctors and health care providers who conscientiously object to taking part in MAID.

Despite conscience protection in the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and language in federal Bill C-14 that no health care professional should be compelled to provide or assist in providing these procedures, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) requires an “effective referral” for “Medical Assistance in Dying”. For doctors or health care workers who are unable to participate, an effective referral is akin to performing the procedure. Doctors may have an objection for any number of reasons: conscience, ethics, moral convictions or the Hippocratic Oath.

Ontario now has an opportunity to offer the same conscience protection that is in place in every other country worldwide where medical assistance in dying has been legalized. Why won't Ontario respect these fundamental rights?

To protect conscience rights and prevent the thousands of objecting physicians and health care providers from being forced out of their practice, I ask you to support the following:

- 1) An amendment to Bill 84 that would provide robust conscience protection: health care workers should not be forced to refer for, perform or assist in MAID against their will and should not be discriminated against for taking this stand.
- 2) Creation of a Care Coordination Service consistent with the approach of Alberta, which protects both patients and health care workers

I respectfully request that you make every effort to raise this issue with your colleagues as soon as possible. Know that I very much appreciate the important work you do each day on behalf of your constituents.

Thank you,

Name:

Email:

Postal Code: