



Statement on End of Life Legislation

HB 3099 and HB 2609

April 14, 2021

A broad coalition of organizations representing hospitals, health care professionals, religious organizations and pro-life groups **support House Bill 3099 by Rep. Garnet Coleman and oppose House Bill 2609 by Rep. Tan Parker.**

Our organizations have a long-standing commitment to work thoughtfully and collaboratively on issues that touch the medical care provided to hospitalized patients at the end of life. We appreciate the reverent conversation that took place on the companions to HB 3099 and HB 2609 in the April 7 Senate Health and Human Services Committee hearing.

As stated, our organizations support HB 3099 and oppose HB 2609. We believe there is space for improvements to the dispute resolution process envisioned in Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 166.046 beyond simply the number of days involved once a hospital ethics committee has convened. HB 3099 takes positive steps toward revising a statute created in 1999. We believe there are additional ways to refine the process.

Texas patients deserve a thoughtful conversation on this topic based on fact and shared experiences. We support a formal interim discussion that involves all stakeholders and legislative participants so they can bear witness to the commitment, conversation and heavy thought that must go into these refinements.

We urge your opposition to HB 2609 and your support for HB 3099.