



## Statement on End of Life Legislation

SB 1944 and SB 917

April 12, 2021

A broad coalition of organizations representing hospitals, health care professionals, religious organizations and pro-life groups **support Senate Bill 1944 by Sen. Eddie Lucio and oppose Senate Bill 917 by Sen. Bryan Hughes.**

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 SB 1944 and SB 917 in the April 7 Senate Health and Human Services Committee hearing.

As stated, our organizations support SB 1944 and oppose SB 917. 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. SB 1944 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 SB 917 and your support for SB 1944.