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January 5, 2015

To: Representatives Joann Ginal and Lois Court  
Re: Physician assisted Suicide legislation

A recent article in The Denver Post caught my eye titled "Colorado Lawmakers Drafting Bill on Assisted Suicide" by Saja Hindi. Like many others I have also closely followed the case of Brittany Maynard. However, this is a topic close to my heart for well over 45 years which began when I watched my paternal grandmother die by inches for about 12 years and often cared for her over my summer breaks from school.

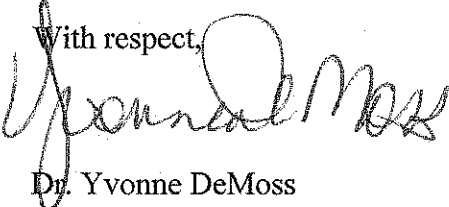
My thought has always been that we show more compassion to our animals in this regard than we do people. But I also think mostly, that people take that decision *at least* as seriously as they would if it were a loved one of the human variety—if not *much more* so, as it should be.

I have also had to face this experience with a couple of my dogs and know how one can agonize over it. I'm sure that as you are researching this issue and hearing from constituents it is becoming clear there are many considerations.

In the end I want you to know that I wholeheartedly support a bill that allows me and my doctor to make the decision of how and when to end my life if my suffering becomes unbearable as Ms. Maynard did. I also appreciate the safeguards that will need to be in place and that there may well be a 'learning curve' as other states have shown us when they have adopted such legislation.

My sincere hope is that we move past just dialogue (which Washington has clearly shown can paralyze just about anything) into action in an expeditious manner on this topic, not being hasty, but being progressive and if there are ANY ways in which I can help or be involved I invite you or your staff to contact me at any of the above so I may do so.

With respect,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Yvonne DeMoss". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Dr. Yvonne DeMoss