

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

All IL Residents

From:

Wendy Wong Wurth North

**Executive Director** 

Subject:

HB 2739- "Our Choice, Our Care Act" (Death with Dignity)

Date:

May 11, 2018

As you are aware, Governor David Ige signed the **Our Care, Our Choice Act** on April 5, 2018. This bill gives mentally capable, terminally ill people with six months or less to live – the option to take prescription medication that enables them to die peacefully in their sleep. The Hawai'i bill establishes a regulatory process under which the terminally ill patient may choose to obtain a prescription for medication to end the patient's life.

As a Resident of Kāhala Nui, it is important that we inform you that exercising the provisions of this act is not an option for our Residents living at Kāhala Nui and the Hi'olani Care Center. The Residency Agreement that you signed at the time you moved in contains the following language:

"As required under the terms of the Ground Lease, KSLC will not permit any use or activity in, on or from Kāhala Nui morally repugnant to the Roman Catholic Bishop of Honolulu or inconsistent with the doctrines and teaching of the Church, including but not limited to, any activity which promotes, counsels, or endorses abortion, euthanasia, induced death or assisted suicide; provided, however, that this prohibition shall not be deemed or construed (i) to refer to the individual acts, beliefs or behaviors of Residents of Kāhala Nui that are not promoted, sponsored or coordinated by KSLC; (ii) to preclude Residents of Kāhala Nui from making and executing so-called "living wills" or "advanced health care directives" according to their individual desires; (iii) to preclude KSLC from providing hospice care or other professionally supervised palliative care, including pain killing drugs, to previously established Residents of Kāhala Nui who are terminally ill, provided that such care is not primarily intended to induce death."

Please feel free to contact me at X7007 should you have any questions.