



DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

2110 Broadway • Sacramento, California 95818 • (916) 733-0133 • Fax (916)733-0195

August 01, 2021

The Honorable: _____

I, _____, am a parishioner at _____ (Parish) in _____ (City), California, where I participate in various ministries and worship. I would like you to consider **opposing SB 380** which is morally unacceptable and seeks to legalize what is an immoral act.

Pope Francis tells us, "... urged medical professionals and loved ones to accompany the dying and practice "responsible closeness," showing love and solidarity during a final illness." Accordingly, **I urge you in the strongest possible terms to oppose SB 380**, because it does not provide alternative options for the patient. Severely compromise the ability of health care organizations to work with their employees to be faithful to their choice to not participate in this activity which they view as an inappropriate and/or immoral response.

After only 4 years and 3 published annual reports by the California Department of Public Health, this bill will end the existing 2025 sunset date and the legislative reevaluation option four years early. This law was implemented in 2016 with very specific requirements. Sound decision-making and science require a more robust data set to evaluate the law's impact. The Legislature should not prematurely eliminate the law's evaluation timeline with incomplete data, especially given the introduction of a worldwide pandemic.

Rather than addressing the persistent MediCal question of unequal access to quality hospice and palliative care for the underserved and needy, SB 380 offers the state a cheaper solution. It can be viewed as encouraging terminally ill MediCal patients to choose the less expensive option of assisted suicide since quality care is not always available to them and they fear being a financial or emotional burden to their families.

I implore you to oppose SB380, and instead support funding that provides human dignity to those in chronic condition that they made have a natural death. I respectfully request a meeting as soon as possible to discuss this critical matter further.

Finally, please know that you and your staff are in my prayers as you continue your important work on behalf of our country.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip Code:** _____