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3 **Title: After Dying With Dignity**
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5 **Introduced by: Domenic R. Federico, MD, for the Kent County Delegation**
6
7 **Original Author: Jayne E. Courts, MD, and James Applegate, MD**
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9 **Referred to: Reference Committee E**
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11 **House Action: Adopted as Amended**

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14 **Whereas, the concept of dying with dignity has been embraced by the**
15 **medical community, and**

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17 **Whereas, honoring a decedent’s last wishes is part of dying with**
18 **dignity, and**

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20 **Whereas, some states (such as Illinois) allow the predeceased the right**
21 **and power to make decisions about funeral arrangements and disposition of**
22 **his/her body after death (pre-designation), and**

23
24 **Whereas, the state of Michigan does not allow the predeceased this**
25 **right/power, even if the decisions have been stated in a legal document such**
26 **as a will (Act 386 of 1998, 700.3206 and 700.2103), granting this right instead**
27 **to the spouse first, followed by relatives in the closest degree of**
28 **consanguinity; therefore be it**

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30 **RESOLVED: That MSMS support legislation to grant the predeceased**
31 **the right to make decisions about funeral arrangements and disposition of**
32 **his/her body after death in written form (legal will or living will) and specify**
33 **that honoring these legal decisions is the responsibility of the executor of the**
34 **decedent’s estate or the nominated personal representative of the decedent,**
35 **as a higher priority than the spouse (or consanguineous relatives).**

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38 **WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE**