

December 20, 2021

Author(s): Kalyne Dunnick

Sponsor(s): Alex Padilla, Dianne Feinstein, Ron Weiden, Jeff Merkley,
Jon Tester, Steve Daines, Maria Cantwell, Patty Murray, Michael Bennet,
John Hickenlooper, Susan Collins, Angus King, Cory Booker, and Bob Menendez

A BILL TO LEGALIZE PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE IN ALL STATES

WHEREAS, a person who is terminally ill with less than six months to live, they have the right to request a prescription for an aid-in-dying drug. The patient must be 18 years or older, they must have the ability to decide on their own, they must be diagnosed with an irreversible and incurable disease with a prognosis of fewer than six months to live, and they must voluntarily ask for the drug. A declaration of witness form must be filled out by two witnesses that are not an attending physician, consulting physician, or mental health specialist. Only one person that is related to them by blood, marriage, or adoption may sign a witness form. The people signing the declaration of witness form must know the patient personally or be shown proof of identification by the patient and,

WHEREAS, if the physician does not feel that assisted suicide is ethical, they do not have to prescribe the drug to any patient. There is a difference between laws and ethics, and if a doctor feels that physician-assisted

suicide is unethical, they don't have to perform it. The patient must find a doctor who is willing to prescribe the drug and cannot force anyone into doing it. If the doctor chooses not to go through with assisted suicide due to feeling as if it is unethical, they will transfer the patient and all of their medical records to another physician. If the physician feels as though the patient suffers from a psychiatric or psychological disorder that is impairing their decision, they can not prescribe the medication to the patient. The patient will be sent to counseling by the physician if they have any mental disorders causing impairment in their decision making and,

WHEREAS, if the patient and the physician follow the requirements, they are protected from criminal prosecution and it can not affect the patient's health or life insurance policies. The patient must make two oral requests to their physician at least fifteen days apart, provide a written request, two physicians must confirm the diagnosis and prognosis of the patient, and the physician must inform the patient of all feasible alternatives to assisted suicide. The patient must also fill out a form of request for a prescription stating their name, what terminal illness they have been diagnosed with, and whether they have informed their family members about their decision or not. This form will then be signed and dated by the patient. It is a Class A felony if you willfully forge, alter, conceal, or destroy any evidence of documents requesting an aid-in-dying drug without permission from the patient. After a patient has requested a prescription for an aid-in-dying

drug, they have the ability to change their mind and not ingest the drug no matter what their mental state is.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the United States here assembled that anyone with a terminal illness with a prognosis of fewer than six months to live may request a prescription for an aid-in-dying drug as long as the physician feels that it is ethical. As long as all of the rules and protocols are followed, they will not be criminally prosecuted. If the patient decides they no longer want to go through with assisted suicide, they do not have to take the drug and can change their mind no matter what mental state they are in. Patients who are deemed mentally fit to make a decision about their life can get a prescription for the drug if they meet all other requirements. A request form along with witness forms must be in the patient's medical record in order for them to receive an aid-in-dying drug. As long as all protocols are followed and all forms are completed, no criminal prosecution is allowed for either the patient or the physician.