

Doctor-Assisted Suicide

Fatally Flawed and Dangerous
to Nevada Patients

Nevada Bill
Seeking to Legalize
ASSISTED SUICIDE

SB 165

Would give a patient who may die in six months the
ability to obtain lethal drugs to commit suicide

Puts Nevada patients
at great risk of coercion,
abuse and denial of
lifesaving treatment.

Important Reasons to Oppose SB 165...

- No trained medical personnel are required to be present at the time the lethal drugs are taken or at the time of death, creating the opportunity for an heir or abusive caregiver to administer the lethal drugs without the patient's knowledge or consent.
- "Terminal illness" is defined as occurring within six months. A major study of physician prognoses in Chicago revealed that of 468 predictions, only 20% were accurate in predicting when death would occur. In another study, "No group accurately predicted the length of patient survival more than 50% of the time."
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1070876/> • <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18445863>
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamainternalmedicine/article-abstract/610800>
- Drug cocktails can be prescribed which cause burning throats and agony at the end.
<https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2019/01/medical-aid-in-dying-medications/580591/>
One in five Dutch patients using standard barbiturates to kill themselves experienced complications including vomiting, inability to finish the medication, longer than expected time to die, failure to induce coma, and awakening from coma. <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJM20002243420805>
- Patients who are severely depressed, have mental illness or are intellectually impaired are not required to have counseling.
- Stating that this bill is needed to help patients avoid pain is a false premise. Inadequate pain control is NOT the primary reason why patients in Oregon and Washington request lethal drugs.
- In Oregon and California – states which allow assisted suicide – patients have been denied payment for treatments to save their lives, but have been told that less-costly lethal drugs would be covered. Assisted suicide creates a strong economic incentive to deny treatment.
- Suicide in the general population in Oregon is 40% above the national average during the 20 year period that Oregon has had legal assisted suicide.

**To protect patients from the dangers of assisted suicide,
URGE YOUR LEGISLATORS TO:**