

# Missouri Right to Life works to protect human life at all stages. We have been instrumental in protecting the right to life of elderly and disabled individuals in Missouri.

The following information was provided by Barbara Lyons of Patients Rights Action:

In 2021, assisted suicide was legalized in New Mexico and expanded in California – many thanks to the coalitions in these states who worked very hard to defeat these bills. Our coalitions did an excellent job in holding bills in other states in committee and we commend their work. As we begin 2022, work will be intense on the carry-over bills, especially in Washington, Vermont, Hawaii, Delaware, Massachusetts and New York. New bills will be introduced in numbers of additional states. The Patients Rights Action Fund deeply appreciates the collaboration with diverse organizations and individuals as we work to promote care, not lethal drugs, for vulnerable individuals.

### **States with Bills to Legalize Assisted Suicide in 2021**

- 1. **Delaware**: HB 140 (carried over to 2022)
- 2. Massachusetts: S. 1384, H. 2381 (carried over to 2022)
- 3. **Minnesota**: SF 1352, HF 1358 (carried over to 2022)
- 4. **New York**: A 4321, S 6471 (carried over to 2022)
- 5. **Pennsylvania**: S.B. 405 (carried over go 2022)

#### States With Bills to Expand Assisted Suicide in 2021

- 1. California: SB 380. Bill passed in the Senate and Assembly.
- 2. Hawaii: SB 323, SB 839, SD 2, HB 487. Bill passed in the Senate, carried over to 2022.
- 3. Vermont: S.74. Carried over 2022
- 4. **Washington:** HB 1141. Bill passed in the House, carried over to 2022 where it must pass in both houses.

# States Which Defeated Bills to Legalize or Expand Assisted Suicide in 2021

- 1. **Arizona**: HB 2254, SB 1775. Bills died in committee with no activity.
- 2. **Connecticut**: HB 6425. Bill passed in one committee, died in the second committee.
- 3. Indiana: HB 1074. Bill died in committee with no activity.
- 4. **Iowa**: SF 212, HF475. Bills died in committee with no activity.
- 5. Kansas: HB 2202. Bill died in committee with no activity.
- 6. **Kentucky**: HB 506. Bill died in committee with no activity.
- 7. **Nevada**: SB 105, AB 351. SB 105 died in committee with no activity. AB 351 was released from one committee and died in another.
- 8. North Dakota: HB 1415. Bill voted down by the House.
- 9. **Rhode Island**: H 5572, S 0775. Bills died in committee with no activity.

### **States Which Enacted Bills to Legalize Assisted Suicide in 2021**

1. **New Mexico**: HB 47. Bill passed in the House and Senate, signed into law by the Governor. Law is now in effect.

# States with Bills to Strengthen Penalties for or Prohibit Assisted Suicide

1. **Montana:** SB 290. Prohibit consent as a defense for assisted suicide which would overturn the State Supreme Court decision. Bill defeated in the Senate on a tie vote.

## **Court Cases**

- 1. California: Shavelson, M.D. et al v. California Department of Health Care Services, a challenge in federal district court asking that the California assisted suicide law allow euthanasia of people with disabilities who cannot self-administer the lethal drugs.
- 2. Oregon: *Nicholas Gideonse, M.D. vs. Kate Brown*, a challenge in federal district court claiming that the residency requirement to receive lethal drugs in Oregon's assisted suicide law is unconstitutional.
- 3. Minnesota: *Final Exit Network, Inc. v. Stuart*, a challenge in federal district court asking it to overturn Minnesota's law prohibiting assisted suicide
- 4. Massachusetts: *Kligler, et al v. Healey,* a challenge before the Massachusetts Supreme Court claiming that criminal prosecution of a doctor for prescribing lethal assisted suicide drugs violates the Massachusetts State Constitution.