

ASSISTED SUICIDE – KNOW THE FACTS

Assisted Suicide was introduced in New York that would amend the public health law, allowing a person's request for and use of medication for assisting their own suicide. Although Governor Andrew Cuomo supported the measure, it failed to pass in 2019. However it is being carried over to 2020.

Under the proposed Assisted Suicide bill, if passed, would permit a doctor to prescribe a lethal drug to end the life of a person if certain conditions are met:

1. "**Adult**" means an individual who is **eighteen years of age or older**, and, although an 18 year old would be too young to purchase alcohol and cigarettes, that same 18 year old would qualify for a lethal dose of drugs in New York;
2. This Bill is also for those who have years to live, 10+ years to live;
3. Assisted suicide would be transformed from a crime into the "*perfect crime*", providing a free out of jail pass. Why? Because there is no oversight;
4. It would give Health insurance programs the opportunity to deny payment for treatments that people need while approving payment for the lethal drug;
5. A person and his or her beneficiaries shall not be denied benefits under a life insurance policy for actions taken in accordance with this Act;
6. The written request for assisted suicide could be witnessed by someone who would gain financially from the person's death;
7. Death certificates must list the "*underlying terminal illness*" as the cause of death, not by assisted suicide;
8. Persons with mental health issues could receive assisted suicide drugs without having any form of counseling, The Bill if passed will conflict with recovery programs that assists persons dealing with substance abuse;
9. This Act appears to limit eligibility to terminally ill patients who are expected to die within 6 months but **does not distinguish between persons who will die within six months with treatment and those who will die within six months without treatment.** This means that patients with treatable diseases like diabetes, or disabilities requiring a wheelchair, are eligible for lethal drugs since they would die within 6 months without treatment. Furthermore, diagnosis of terminal illness and predictions of life expectancies are not an exact science;



info@NYagainstAS.com

www.NYagainstAS.com