

# HOUSE BILL 1328

J1  
HB 403/24 – HGO & JUD

5lr1290  
CF SB 926

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By: **Delegates Hill, Acevero, Allen, Bagnall, Barnes, Boyce, Charkoudian, Conaway, Crutchfield, Cullison, Ebersole, Fair, Feldmark, Foley, Forbes, Guzzone, Kaiser, Kaufman, Kerr, Korman, Lehman, R. Lewis, Lopez, McCaskill, Moon, Palakovich Carr, Pasteur, Pena–Melnyk, Qi, Ruff, Ruth, Schindler, Shetty, Simmons, Simpson, Solomon, Spiegel, Stein, Stewart, Taveras, Terrasa, Vogel, Wells, Wilkins, Williams, Wolek, Woorman, Wu, and Ziegler**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025  
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **End-of-Life Option Act**  
3 **(The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E.**  
4 **Pendergrass Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of authorizing an individual to request aid in dying by making certain  
6 requests; establishing requirements and prohibitions governing aid in dying,  
7 including requirements related to requests for aid in dying, consulting physicians,  
8 mental health assessments, the disposal of drugs prescribed for aid in dying, health  
9 care facility policies, and the effect of aid in dying on insurance policies; authorizing  
10 a pharmacist to dispense medication for aid in dying only to certain individuals  
11 under certain circumstances; providing that the death of a qualified individual by  
12 reason of self-administration of certain medication shall be deemed to be a death  
13 from certain natural causes for certain purposes; providing that this Act does not  
14 authorize certain individuals to end another individual's life by certain means;  
15 providing that participation by a health care provider in aid in dying is voluntary;  
16 authorizing the Maryland Insurance Commissioner to enforce certain provisions of  
17 this Act; establishing that a licensed health care professional does not violate the  
18 statutory prohibition on assisted suicide by taking certain actions in accordance with  
19 this Act; and generally relating to aid in dying.

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
21 Article – Criminal Law  
22 Section 3–103  
23 Annotated Code of Maryland  
24 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BY adding to  
 2 Article – Health – General  
 3 Section 5–6A–01 through 5–6A–17 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 6A. The  
 4 Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass  
 5 End-of-Life Option Act”  
 6 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 7 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

8 BY adding to  
 9 Article – Insurance  
 10 Section 27–208.1  
 11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 12 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
 14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Criminal Law**

16 3–103.

17 (a) A licensed health care professional does not violate § 3–102 of this subtitle by  
 18 administering or prescribing a procedure or administering, prescribing, or dispensing a  
 19 medication to relieve pain, even if the medication or procedure may hasten death or  
 20 increase the risk of death, unless the licensed health care professional knowingly  
 21 administers or prescribes the procedure or administers, prescribes, or dispenses the  
 22 medication to cause death.

23 (b) A licensed health care professional does not violate § 3–102 of this subtitle by  
 24 withholding or withdrawing a medically administered life–sustaining procedure:

25 (1) in compliance with Title 5, Subtitle 6 of the Health – General Article;  
 26 or

27 (2) in accordance with reasonable medical practice.

28 **(C) A LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL DOES NOT VIOLATE § 3–102**  
 29 **OF THIS SUBTITLE BY TAKING ANY ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 5,**  
 30 **SUBTITLE 6A OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE.**

31 **[(c)] (D)** (1) Unless the family member knowingly administers a procedure or  
 32 administers or dispenses a medication to cause death, a family member does not violate  
 33 § 3–102 of this subtitle if the family member:

34 (i) is a caregiver for a patient enrolled in a licensed hospice program;  
 35 and

1 (ii) administers the procedure or administers or dispenses the  
2 medication to relieve pain under the supervision of a health care professional.

3 (2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection applies even if the medication or  
4 procedure hastens death or increases the risk of death.

## 5 Article – Health – General

### 6 SUBTITLE 6A. THE HONORABLE ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS AND THE HONORABLE 7 SHANE E. PENDERGRASS END-OF-LIFE OPTION ACT.

#### 8 5-6A-01.

9 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
10 INDICATED.

11 (B) “AID IN DYING” MEANS THE MEDICAL PRACTICE OF A PHYSICIAN  
12 PRESCRIBING MEDICATION TO A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL THAT THE QUALIFIED  
13 INDIVIDUAL MAY SELF-ADMINISTER TO BRING ABOUT THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL’S  
14 DEATH.

15 (C) “ATTENDING PHYSICIAN” MEANS THE LICENSED PHYSICIAN WHO HAS  
16 PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MEDICAL CARE OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND  
17 TREATMENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL’S TERMINAL ILLNESS.

18 (D) “CAPACITY TO MAKE MEDICAL DECISIONS” MEANS THE ABILITY OF AN  
19 INDIVIDUAL TO:

20 (1) UNDERSTAND THE NATURE AND CONSEQUENCES OF A HEALTH  
21 CARE DECISION;

22 (2) UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS, RISKS, AND  
23 ALTERNATIVES OF A HEALTH CARE DECISION; AND

24 (3) MAKE AND COMMUNICATE AN INFORMED DECISION TO HEALTH  
25 CARE PROVIDERS, INCLUDING COMMUNICATION THROUGH ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL  
26 FAMILIAR WITH THE INDIVIDUAL’S MANNER OF COMMUNICATING, IF THE OTHER  
27 INDIVIDUAL IS AVAILABLE.

28 (E) “CONSULTING PHYSICIAN” MEANS A LICENSED PHYSICIAN WHO IS  
29 QUALIFIED BY SPECIALTY OR EXPERIENCE TO CONFIRM A PROFESSIONAL  
30 DIAGNOSIS AND PROGNOSIS REGARDING AN INDIVIDUAL’S TERMINAL ILLNESS.

31 (F) “HEALTH CARE FACILITY” MEANS:

1           (1)    **A HOSPITAL, AS DEFINED IN § 19-301 OF THIS ARTICLE;**

2           (2)    **A HOSPICE FACILITY, AS DEFINED IN § 19-901 OF THIS ARTICLE;**

3           (3)    **AN ASSISTED LIVING PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN § 19-1801 OF THIS**  
4 **ARTICLE; OR**

5           (4)    **A NURSING HOME, AS DEFINED IN § 19-1401 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

6           **(G) “HEALTH CARE PROVIDER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED OR**  
7 **CERTIFIED UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE TO PROVIDE HEALTH**  
8 **CARE OR DISPENSE MEDICATION IN THE ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS OR**  
9 **PRACTICE OF A PROFESSION.**

10          **(H) “INFORMED DECISION” MEANS A DECISION BY AN INDIVIDUAL THAT IS:**

11               **(1)    BASED ON AN UNDERSTANDING AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE**  
12 **RELEVANT FACTS; AND**

13               **(2)    MADE AFTER RECEIVING THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER**  
14 **§ 5-6A-04(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

15          **(I)    “LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL” MEANS A LICENSED**  
16 **PSYCHIATRIST OR A LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST.**

17          **(J)    “LICENSED PHYSICIAN” MEANS A PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED TO**  
18 **PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THE STATE.**

19          **(K)    “LICENSED PSYCHIATRIST” MEANS A PSYCHIATRIST WHO IS LICENSED**  
20 **TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THE STATE.**

21          **(L)    “LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST” MEANS A PSYCHOLOGIST WHO IS LICENSED**  
22 **TO PRACTICE PSYCHOLOGY IN THE STATE.**

23          **(M)    “MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT” MEANS ONE OR MORE**  
24 **CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN AN INDIVIDUAL AND A LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH**  
25 **PROFESSIONAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING THAT THE INDIVIDUAL HAS**  
26 **THE CAPACITY TO MAKE MEDICAL DECISIONS.**

27          **(N)    “PALLIATIVE CARE” MEANS HEALTH CARE CENTERED ON A**  
28 **TERMINALLY ILL INDIVIDUAL AND THE INDIVIDUAL’S FAMILY THAT:**

29               **(1)    OPTIMIZES THE INDIVIDUAL’S QUALITY OF LIFE BY**

1 ANTICIPATING, PREVENTING, AND TREATING THE INDIVIDUAL'S SUFFERING  
2 THROUGHOUT THE CONTINUUM OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S TERMINAL ILLNESS;

3 (2) ADDRESSES THE PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL, AND SPIRITUAL  
4 NEEDS OF THE INDIVIDUAL;

5 (3) FACILITATES INDIVIDUAL AUTONOMY, THE INDIVIDUAL'S ACCESS  
6 TO INFORMATION, AND INDIVIDUAL CHOICE; AND

7 (4) INCLUDES DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE INDIVIDUAL AND A  
8 HEALTH CARE PROVIDER CONCERNING THE INDIVIDUAL'S GOALS FOR TREATMENT  
9 AND APPROPRIATE TREATMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE INDIVIDUAL,  
10 INCLUDING HOSPICE CARE AND COMPREHENSIVE PAIN AND SYMPTOM  
11 MANAGEMENT.

12 (O) "PHARMACIST" MEANS A PHARMACIST WHO IS LICENSED TO PRACTICE  
13 PHARMACY IN THE STATE.

14 (P) "QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

15 (1) IS AN ADULT;

16 (2) HAS THE CAPACITY TO MAKE MEDICAL DECISIONS;

17 (3) HAS A TERMINAL ILLNESS; AND

18 (4) HAS THE ABILITY TO SELF-ADMINISTER MEDICATION.

19 (Q) "RELATIVE" MEANS:

20 (1) A SPOUSE;

21 (2) A CHILD;

22 (3) A GRANDCHILD;

23 (4) A SIBLING;

24 (5) A PARENT; OR

25 (6) A GRANDPARENT.

26 (R) (1) "SELF-ADMINISTER" MEANS A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL'S  
27 AFFIRMATIVE, CONSCIOUS, AND VOLUNTARY ACT OF INGESTING MEDICATION  
28 PRESCRIBED UNDER § 5-6A-07(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE TO BRING ABOUT THE

1 INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH.

2 (2) "SELF-ADMINISTER" DOES NOT INCLUDE TAKING MEDICATION BY  
3 PARENTERAL INJECTION OR INFUSION.

4 (S) "TERMINAL ILLNESS" MEANS A MEDICAL CONDITION THAT, WITHIN  
5 REASONABLE MEDICAL JUDGMENT, INVOLVES A PROGNOSIS FOR AN INDIVIDUAL  
6 THAT THE CONDITION LIKELY WILL RESULT IN THE INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH WITHIN 6  
7 MONTHS.

8 (T) "WRITTEN REQUEST" MEANS A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING.

9 5-6A-02.

10 (A) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY REQUEST AID IN DYING BY:

11 (1) MAKING AN INITIAL ORAL REQUEST TO THE INDIVIDUAL'S  
12 ATTENDING PHYSICIAN;

13 (2) AFTER MAKING AN INITIAL ORAL REQUEST, MAKING A WRITTEN  
14 REQUEST TO THE INDIVIDUAL'S ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
15 § 5-6A-03 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

16 (3) MAKING A SECOND ORAL REQUEST TO THE INDIVIDUAL'S  
17 ATTENDING PHYSICIAN AT LEAST:

18 (I) 15 DAYS AFTER MAKING THE INITIAL ORAL REQUEST; AND

19 (II) 48 HOURS AFTER MAKING THE WRITTEN REQUEST.

20 (B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, NO OTHER  
21 INDIVIDUAL, INCLUDING AN AGENT UNDER AN ADVANCE DIRECTIVE, AN ATTORNEY  
22 IN FACT UNDER A DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY, A GUARDIAN, OR A  
23 CONSERVATOR, MAY REQUEST AID IN DYING ON BEHALF OF AN INDIVIDUAL.

24 (C) AT LEAST ONE OF THE ORAL REQUESTS MADE UNDER SUBSECTION (A)  
25 OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE MADE WHILE THE INDIVIDUAL IS ALONE WITH THE  
26 ATTENDING PHYSICIAN.

27 5-6A-03.

28 (A) A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING REQUIRED UNDER  
29 § 5-6A-02(A)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE:

1 (1) IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME FORM SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION  
2 (C) OF THIS SECTION;

3 (2) SIGNED AND DATED BY THE INDIVIDUAL; AND

4 (3) WITNESSED BY AT LEAST TWO OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO, IN THE  
5 PRESENCE OF THE INDIVIDUAL, ATTEST THAT TO THE BEST OF THEIR KNOWLEDGE  
6 AND BELIEF THE INDIVIDUAL IS:

7 (i) OF SOUND MIND; AND

8 (ii) ACTING VOLUNTARILY AND NOT BEING COERCED TO SIGN  
9 THE WRITTEN REQUEST.

10 (B) (1) ONLY ONE OF THE WITNESSES UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(3) OF THIS  
11 SECTION MAY BE:

12 (i) A RELATIVE OF THE INDIVIDUAL BY BLOOD, MARRIAGE, OR  
13 ADOPTION; OR

14 (ii) AT THE TIME THE WRITTEN REQUEST IS SIGNED BY THE  
15 INDIVIDUAL, ENTITLED TO ANY BENEFIT ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH.

16 (2) THE INDIVIDUAL'S ATTENDING PHYSICIAN MAY NOT BE A  
17 WITNESS.

18 (C) A WRITTEN REQUEST UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE IN  
19 SUBSTANTIALLY THE FOLLOWING FORM:

20 MARYLAND REQUEST FOR MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING

21 BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_  
22 (PRINT NAME) (MONTH/DAY/YEAR)

23 I, \_\_\_\_\_, AM AN ADULT OF SOUND MIND.

24 I AM SUFFERING FROM \_\_\_\_\_, WHICH MY ATTENDING  
25 PHYSICIAN HAS DETERMINED WILL, MORE LIKELY THAN NOT, RESULT IN DEATH  
26 WITHIN 6 MONTHS. I HAVE BEEN FULLY INFORMED OF MY DIAGNOSIS, MY  
27 PROGNOSIS, THE NATURE OF MEDICATION TO BE PRESCRIBED TO AID ME IN DYING,  
28 THE POTENTIAL ASSOCIATED RISKS, THE EXPECTED RESULT, THE FEASIBLE  
29 ALTERNATIVES, AND THE ADDITIONAL HEALTH CARE TREATMENT OPTIONS,  
30 INCLUDING PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE.

1 I HAVE ORALLY REQUESTED THAT MY ATTENDING PHYSICIAN PRESCRIBE  
 2 MEDICATION THAT I MAY SELF-ADMINISTER FOR AID IN DYING, AND I NOW CONFIRM  
 3 THIS REQUEST. I AUTHORIZE MY ATTENDING PHYSICIAN TO CONTACT A  
 4 PHARMACIST TO FILL THE PRESCRIPTION FOR THE MEDICATION ON MY REQUEST.

5 INITIAL ONE:

6 \_\_\_\_\_ I HAVE INFORMED MY FAMILY OF MY DECISION AND TAKEN THEIR OPINIONS  
 7 INTO CONSIDERATION.

8 \_\_\_\_\_ I HAVE DECIDED NOT TO INFORM MY FAMILY OF MY DECISION.

9 \_\_\_\_\_ I HAVE NO FAMILY TO INFORM OF MY DECISION.

10 I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE THE RIGHT TO RESCIND THIS REQUEST AT ANY TIME.

11 I UNDERSTAND THE FULL IMPORT OF THIS REQUEST AND I EXPECT TO DIE IF AND  
 12 WHEN I TAKE THE MEDICATION TO BE PRESCRIBED. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT,  
 13 ALTHOUGH MOST DEATHS OCCUR WITHIN 3 HOURS, MY DEATH MAY TAKE LONGER,  
 14 AND MY ATTENDING PHYSICIAN HAS COUNSELED ME ABOUT THIS POSSIBILITY.

15 I MAKE THIS REQUEST VOLUNTARILY AND WITHOUT RESERVATION, AND I ACCEPT  
 16 FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY DECISION TO REQUEST AID IN DYING.

17 SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

## 18 DECLARATION OF WITNESSES

19 I UNDERSTAND THAT, UNDER MARYLAND LAW, A WITNESS TO A REQUEST FOR  
 20 MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING MAY NOT BE THE INDIVIDUAL'S ATTENDING  
 21 PHYSICIAN. FURTHER, ONLY ONE OF THE WITNESSES MAY BE:

22 1. A RELATIVE OF THE INDIVIDUAL BY BLOOD, MARRIAGE, OR ADOPTION;  
 23 OR

24 2. AT THE TIME THE WRITTEN REQUEST IS SIGNED BY THE INDIVIDUAL,  
 25 ENTITLED TO ANY BENEFIT ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH.

26 BY SIGNING BELOW ON THE DATE THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE SIGNS, I  
 27 DECLARE THAT:

28 THE INDIVIDUAL MAKING AND SIGNING THE ABOVE REQUEST:

29 1. IS PERSONALLY KNOWN TO ME OR HAS PROVIDED PROOF OF IDENTITY;

30 2. SIGNED THIS REQUEST IN MY PRESENCE ON THE DATE OF THE



1 INDIVIDUAL'S SIGNATURE;

2 3. APPEARS TO BE OF SOUND MIND AND NOT UNDER DURESS, FRAUD, OR  
3 UNDUE INFLUENCE; AND

4 4. IS NOT AN INDIVIDUAL FOR WHOM I AM THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN.

5 WITNESS 1  
6 (CHECK ONE)

7 \_\_\_\_\_ I AM:

8 \_\_\_\_\_ I AM NOT:

9 1. A RELATIVE OF THE INDIVIDUAL BY BLOOD, MARRIAGE, OR ADOPTION;  
10 OR

11 2. AT THE TIME THE REQUEST IS SIGNED, ENTITLED TO ANY BENEFIT ON  
12 THE INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH.

13 PRINTED NAME OF WITNESS 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
14 SIGNATURE OF WITNESS 1 \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_.

15 WITNESS 2  
16 (CHECK ONE)

17 \_\_\_\_\_ I AM:

18 \_\_\_\_\_ I AM NOT:

19 1. A RELATIVE OF THE INDIVIDUAL BY BLOOD, MARRIAGE, OR ADOPTION;  
20 OR

21 2. AT THE TIME THE REQUEST IS SIGNED, ENTITLED TO ANY BENEFIT ON  
22 THE INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH.

23 PRINTED NAME OF WITNESS 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 SIGNATURE OF WITNESS 2 \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_.

25 5-6A-04.

26 (A) (1) WHEN AN ATTENDING PHYSICIAN IS PRESENTED WITH AN  
27 INDIVIDUAL'S WRITTEN REQUEST, THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN SHALL DETERMINE  
28 WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL:

- 1           **(I) IS A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL;**  
2           **(II) HAS MADE AN INFORMED DECISION; AND**  
3           **(III) HAS VOLUNTARILY REQUESTED AID IN DYING.**

4           **(2) AN INDIVIDUAL IS NOT A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL SOLELY DUE TO**  
5 **AGE, DISABILITY, OR A SPECIFIC ILLNESS.**

6           **(B) AN ATTENDING PHYSICIAN SHALL ENSURE THAT AN INDIVIDUAL MAKES**  
7 **AN INFORMED DECISION BY INFORMING THE INDIVIDUAL OF:**

8           **(1) THE INDIVIDUAL'S MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS;**

9           **(2) THE INDIVIDUAL'S PROGNOSIS;**

10          **(3) THE POTENTIAL RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH SELF-ADMINISTERING**  
11 **THE MEDICATION TO BE PRESCRIBED FOR AID IN DYING;**

12          **(4) THE PROBABLE RESULT OF SELF-ADMINISTERING THE**  
13 **MEDICATION TO BE PRESCRIBED FOR AID IN DYING; AND**

14          **(5) ANY FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES AND HEALTH CARE TREATMENT**  
15 **OPTIONS, INCLUDING PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE.**

16          **(C) SUBJECT TO § 5-6A-06 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IF THE ATTENDING**  
17 **PHYSICIAN DETERMINES THAT AN INDIVIDUAL IS A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL, HAS**  
18 **MADE AN INFORMED DECISION, AND HAS VOLUNTARILY REQUESTED AID IN DYING,**  
19 **THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN SHALL REFER THE INDIVIDUAL TO A CONSULTING**  
20 **PHYSICIAN TO CARRY OUT THE DUTIES REQUIRED UNDER § 5-6A-05 OF THIS**  
21 **SUBTITLE.**

22 **5-6A-05.**

23          **A CONSULTING PHYSICIAN TO WHOM AN INDIVIDUAL HAS BEEN REFERRED**  
24 **UNDER § 5-6A-04(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL:**

25          **(1) EXAMINE THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE INDIVIDUAL'S RELEVANT**  
26 **MEDICAL RECORDS;**

27          **(2) CONFIRM THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S DIAGNOSIS THAT THE**  
28 **INDIVIDUAL HAS A TERMINAL ILLNESS;**

29          **(3) IF REQUIRED UNDER § 5-6A-06 OF THIS SUBTITLE, REFER THE**

1 INDIVIDUAL FOR A MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT;

2 (4) VERIFY THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL, HAS  
3 MADE AN INFORMED DECISION, AND HAS VOLUNTARILY REQUESTED AID IN DYING;  
4 AND

5 (5) DOCUMENT THE FULFILLMENT OF THE CONSULTING PHYSICIAN'S  
6 DUTIES UNDER THIS SECTION IN WRITING.

7 **5-6A-06.**

8 (A) IF, IN THE MEDICAL OPINION OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR THE  
9 CONSULTING PHYSICIAN, AN INDIVIDUAL MAY BE SUFFERING FROM A CONDITION  
10 THAT IS CAUSING IMPAIRED JUDGMENT OR OTHERWISE DOES NOT HAVE THE  
11 CAPACITY TO MAKE MEDICAL DECISIONS, THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR THE  
12 CONSULTING PHYSICIAN SHALL REFER THE INDIVIDUAL TO A LICENSED MENTAL  
13 HEALTH PROFESSIONAL FOR A MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT.

14 (B) IF AN INDIVIDUAL IS REFERRED FOR A MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL  
15 ASSESSMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, AN ATTENDING PHYSICIAN  
16 MAY NOT PROVIDE THE INDIVIDUAL MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING UNTIL THE  
17 LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PROVIDING THE MENTAL HEALTH  
18 PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT:

19 (1) DETERMINES THAT THE INDIVIDUAL HAS THE CAPACITY TO MAKE  
20 MEDICAL DECISIONS AND IS NOT SUFFERING FROM A CONDITION THAT IS CAUSING  
21 IMPAIRED JUDGMENT; AND

22 (2) COMMUNICATES THIS DETERMINATION TO THE ATTENDING  
23 PHYSICIAN AND THE CONSULTING PHYSICIAN IN WRITING.

24 **5-6A-07.**

25 (A) AFTER THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN AND THE CONSULTING PHYSICIAN  
26 HAVE FULFILLED THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER §§ 5-6A-04 AND 5-6A-05 OF THIS  
27 SUBTITLE, AND AFTER THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL SUBMITS A SECOND ORAL  
28 REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING, AS REQUIRED UNDER § 5-6A-02 OF THIS SUBTITLE,  
29 THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN SHALL:

30 (1) INFORM THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL THAT IT IS THE DECISION OF  
31 THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL AS TO WHETHER AND WHEN TO SELF-ADMINISTER THE  
32 MEDICATION PRESCRIBED FOR AID IN DYING;

33 (2) (I) INFORM THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL THAT THE QUALIFIED

1 INDIVIDUAL MAY WISH TO NOTIFY NEXT OF KIN OF THE REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING;  
2 AND

3 (II) INFORM THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL THAT A FAILURE TO  
4 NOTIFY NEXT OF KIN IS NOT A BASIS FOR DENIAL OF THE REQUEST FOR AID IN  
5 DYING;

6 (3) COUNSEL THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL CONCERNING THE  
7 IMPORTANCE OF:

8 (I) HAVING ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL PRESENT WHEN THE  
9 QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL SELF-ADMINISTERS THE MEDICATION PRESCRIBED FOR  
10 AID IN DYING;

11 (II) NOT TAKING THE MEDICATION IN A PUBLIC PLACE; AND

12 (III) PARTICIPATING IN A HOSPICE PROGRAM;

13 (4) ENCOURAGE THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL TO PREPARE AN  
14 ADVANCE DIRECTIVE;

15 (5) CONFIRM THAT THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL'S REQUEST DOES  
16 NOT ARISE FROM COERCION OR UNDUE INFLUENCE BY ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL BY  
17 DISCUSSING WITH THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL, OUTSIDE THE PRESENCE OF ANY  
18 OTHER INDIVIDUAL EXCEPT FOR AN INTERPRETER, WHETHER THE QUALIFIED  
19 INDIVIDUAL IS FEELING COERCED OR UNDULY INFLUENCED BY ANOTHER  
20 INDIVIDUAL;

21 (6) INFORM THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL THAT THE QUALIFIED  
22 INDIVIDUAL MAY RESCIND THE REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING AT ANY TIME AND IN ANY  
23 MANNER;

24 (7) VERIFY, IMMEDIATELY BEFORE WRITING THE PRESCRIPTION FOR  
25 MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING, THAT THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL IS MAKING AN  
26 INFORMED DECISION;

27 (8) FULFILL THE DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED  
28 UNDER § 5-6A-08 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

29 (9) (I) IF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN HOLDS A DISPENSING  
30 PERMIT FROM THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIANS AND WISHES TO DISPENSE THE  
31 MEDICATION, DISPENSE TO THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL:

32 1. THE PRESCRIBED MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING;

1 AND

2                                   2. ANY ANCILLARY MEDICATIONS NEEDED TO MINIMIZE  
3 THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL'S DISCOMFORT; OR

4                                   (II) IF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN DOES NOT HOLD A  
5 DISPENSING PERMIT OR DOES NOT WISH TO DISPENSE THE MEDICATION FOR AID IN  
6 DYING, AND THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS AND PROVIDES WRITTEN  
7 CONSENT FOR THE MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING TO BE DISPENSED BY A  
8 PHARMACIST:

9                                   1. CONTACT A PHARMACIST;

10                                  2. INFORM THE PHARMACIST OF THE PRESCRIPTION  
11 FOR MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING; AND

12                                  3. SUBMIT THE PRESCRIPTION FOR MEDICATION FOR  
13 AID IN DYING TO THE PHARMACIST BY ANY MEANS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

14                   (B) (1) A PHARMACIST WHO HAS BEEN CONTACTED AND INFORMED BY AN  
15 ATTENDING PHYSICIAN AND TO WHOM AN ATTENDING PHYSICIAN HAS SUBMITTED A  
16 PRESCRIPTION FOR MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
17 REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION MAY DISPENSE THE  
18 MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING AND ANY ANCILLARY MEDICATION ONLY TO THE  
19 QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL, THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, OR AN EXPRESSLY IDENTIFIED  
20 AGENT OF THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL.

21                                  (2) IF A PHARMACIST WHO HAS BEEN CONTACTED UNDER  
22 SUBSECTION (A)(9)(II) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT WISH TO OR IS UNABLE TO  
23 DISPENSE THE MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING OR ANY ANCILLARY MEDICATION,  
24 THE PHARMACIST SHALL NOTIFY THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL, THE ATTENDING  
25 PHYSICIAN, AND ANY EXPRESSLY IDENTIFIED AGENT OF THE QUALIFIED  
26 INDIVIDUAL THAT THE PHARMACIST DOES NOT WISH TO OR IS UNABLE TO DISPENSE  
27 THE MEDICATION.

28                   (C) IF A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL SELF-ADMINISTERS MEDICATION FOR AID  
29 IN DYING AND DIES, THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN MAY SIGN THE QUALIFIED  
30 INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH CERTIFICATE.

31 5-6A-08.

32                   (A) WITH RESPECT TO A REQUEST BY A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL FOR AID IN  
33 DYING, THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN SHALL ENSURE THAT THE MEDICAL RECORD OF  
34 THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL DOCUMENTS OR CONTAINS:

1           **(1) THE BASIS FOR DETERMINING THAT THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL**  
2 **IS AN ADULT;**

3           **(2) ALL ORAL AND WRITTEN REQUESTS BY THE QUALIFIED**  
4 **INDIVIDUAL FOR MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING;**

5           **(3) THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S:**

6                 **(I) DIAGNOSIS OF THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL'S TERMINAL**  
7 **ILLNESS AND PROGNOSIS; AND**

8                 **(II) DETERMINATION THAT THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL HAS**  
9 **THE CAPACITY TO MAKE MEDICAL DECISIONS, HAS MADE AN INFORMED DECISION,**  
10 **AND HAS VOLUNTARILY REQUESTED AID IN DYING;**

11           **(4) DOCUMENTATION THAT THE CONSULTING PHYSICIAN HAS**  
12 **FULFILLED THE CONSULTING PHYSICIAN'S DUTIES UNDER § 5-6A-05 OF THIS**  
13 **SUBTITLE;**

14           **(5) A REPORT OF THE OUTCOME OF AND DETERMINATIONS MADE**  
15 **DURING THE MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT IF:**

16                 **(I) THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL WAS REFERRED FOR A MENTAL**  
17 **HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 5-6A-06 OF THIS**  
18 **SUBTITLE; AND**

19                 **(II) THE MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT WAS**  
20 **PROVIDED;**

21           **(6) DOCUMENTATION OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S OFFER TO**  
22 **THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL TO RESCIND THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL'S REQUEST**  
23 **FOR MEDICATION FOR AID IN DYING AT THE TIME THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN**  
24 **WROTE THE PRESCRIPTION FOR THE MEDICATION FOR THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL;**  
25 **AND**

26           **(7) A STATEMENT BY THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN:**

27                 **(I) INDICATING THAT ALL REQUIREMENTS FOR AID IN DYING**  
28 **UNDER THIS SUBTITLE HAVE BEEN MET; AND**

29                 **(II) SPECIFYING THE STEPS TAKEN TO CARRY OUT THE**  
30 **QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL'S REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING, INCLUDING THE MEDICATION**  
31 **PRESCRIBED FOR AID IN DYING.**

1           **(B) THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN SHALL SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT ANY**  
2 **INFORMATION REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBTITLE REQUIRED BY**  
3 **REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER § 5-6A-09(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

4 **5-6A-09.**

5           **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO FACILITATE THE**  
6 **COLLECTION OF INFORMATION UNDER § 5-6A-08(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

7           **(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PRODUCE AND MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE**  
8 **PUBLIC AN ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT OF INFORMATION COLLECTED UNDER**  
9 **SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.**

10           **(C) RECORDS OR INFORMATION COLLECTED OR MAINTAINED UNDER THIS**  
11 **SUBTITLE ARE NOT SUBJECT TO SUBPOENA OR DISCOVERY AND MAY NOT BE**  
12 **INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE IN ANY JUDICIAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING,**  
13 **EXCEPT TO RESOLVE MATTERS CONCERNING COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE OR**  
14 **AS OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED BY LAW.**

15 **5-6A-10.**

16           **A PERSON THAT, AFTER A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH, IS IN POSSESSION**  
17 **OF MEDICATION PRESCRIBED FOR AID IN DYING THAT HAS NOT BEEN**  
18 **SELF-ADMINISTERED SHALL DISPOSE OF THE MEDICATION IN A LAWFUL MANNER.**

19 **5-6A-11.**

20           **(A) FOR ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS, RECORD-KEEPING**  
21 **PURPOSES, AND OTHER PURPOSES GOVERNED BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE,**  
22 **WHETHER CONTRACTUAL, CIVIL, CRIMINAL, OR OTHERWISE, THE DEATH OF A**  
23 **QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL BY REASON OF THE SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION**  
24 **PRESCRIBED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE A DEATH FROM**  
25 **NATURAL CAUSES, SPECIFICALLY AS A RESULT OF THE TERMINAL ILLNESS FROM**  
26 **WHICH THE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL SUFFERED.**

27           **(B) A PROVISION IN A CONTRACT OR ANY OTHER LEGAL INSTRUMENT THAT**  
28 **IS CONTRARY TO SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION IS VOID.**

29           **(C) SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO**  
30 **PROHIBIT THE PROSECUTION OF A PERSON FOR MURDER OR ATTEMPTED MURDER**  
31 **IF THE PERSON, WITH THE INTENT OR EFFECT OF CAUSING THE INDIVIDUAL'S**  
32 **DEATH:**

- 1           **(1) WILLFULLY ALTERS OR FORGES A REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING;**
- 2           **(2) CONCEALS OR DESTROYS A RESCISSION OF A REQUEST FOR AID IN**  
3 **DYING;**
- 4           **(3) COERCES OR EXERTS UNDUE INFLUENCE ON AN INDIVIDUAL TO**  
5 **COMPLETE A REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING; OR**
- 6           **(4) COERCES OR EXERTS UNDUE INFLUENCE ON AN INDIVIDUAL TO**  
7 **DESTROY A RESCISSION OF A REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING.**

8           **(D) (1) THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT AUTHORIZE A LICENSED PHYSICIAN OR**  
9 **ANY OTHER PERSON TO END AN INDIVIDUAL'S LIFE BY LETHAL INJECTION, MERCY**  
10 **KILLING, OR ACTIVE EUTHANASIA.**

11           **(2) ACTIONS TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE DO NOT,**  
12 **FOR ANY PURPOSE, CONSTITUTE SUICIDE, ASSISTED SUICIDE, MERCY KILLING, OR**  
13 **HOMICIDE.**

14 **5-6A-12.**

15           **(A) A PROVISION IN A STATE OR FEDERAL INSURANCE POLICY, AN ANNUITY,**  
16 **A CONTRACT, OR ANY OTHER AGREEMENT, ISSUED OR MADE ON OR AFTER OCTOBER**  
17 **1, 2025, IS NOT VALID TO THE EXTENT THAT THE PROVISION WOULD ATTACH**  
18 **CONSEQUENCES TO OR OTHERWISE RESTRICT OR INFLUENCE AN INDIVIDUAL'S**  
19 **DECISION TO MAKE OR RESCIND A REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING UNDER THIS**  
20 **SUBTITLE.**

21           **(B) AN OBLIGATION UNDER A CONTRACT EXISTING ON OCTOBER 1, 2025,**  
22 **MAY NOT BE CONDITIONED ON OR AFFECTED BY THE MAKING OR RESCINDING OF A**  
23 **REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

24           **(C) A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL'S ACT OF SELF-ADMINISTERING MEDICATION**  
25 **FOR AID IN DYING MAY NOT HAVE AN EFFECT UNDER A LIFE INSURANCE POLICY, A**  
26 **HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY OR CONTRACT, OR AN ANNUITY CONTRACT THAT**  
27 **DIFFERS FROM THE EFFECT UNDER THE POLICY OR CONTRACT OF THE QUALIFIED**  
28 **INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH FROM NATURAL CAUSES.**

29 **5-6A-13.**

30           **(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 5-6A-14(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE:**

31           **(1) A PERSON MAY NOT BE SUBJECT TO CIVIL OR CRIMINAL LIABILITY**  
32 **OR PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR PARTICIPATING IN GOOD FAITH**



1 COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE, INCLUDING BEING PRESENT WHEN A QUALIFIED  
2 INDIVIDUAL SELF-ADMINISTERS MEDICATION PRESCRIBED FOR AID IN DYING; AND

3 (2) A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER OR A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD  
4 MAY NOT SUBJECT A PERSON TO CENSURE, DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION, LOSS OF  
5 LICENSE, LOSS OF PRIVILEGES, LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP, OR ANY OTHER PENALTY FOR  
6 PARTICIPATING OR REFUSING TO PARTICIPATE IN GOOD FAITH COMPLIANCE WITH  
7 THIS SUBTITLE.

8 (B) AN INDIVIDUAL'S REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING OR AN ATTENDING  
9 PHYSICIAN'S PRESCRIPTION OF MEDICATION MADE IN GOOD FAITH COMPLIANCE  
10 WITH THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT:

11 (1) CONSTITUTE NEGLIGENCE FOR ANY PURPOSE OF LAW; OR

12 (2) PROVIDE THE SOLE BASIS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A  
13 GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR.

14 5-6A-14.

15 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
16 INDICATED.

17 (2) "NOTIFY" MEANS TO PROVIDE A SEPARATE STATEMENT IN  
18 WRITING TO A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER SPECIFICALLY INFORMING THE HEALTH  
19 CARE PROVIDER, BEFORE THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER'S PARTICIPATION IN AID IN  
20 DYING, OF A HEALTH CARE FACILITY'S POLICY ABOUT PARTICIPATION IN AID IN  
21 DYING.

22 (3) (I) "PARTICIPATE IN AID IN DYING" MEANS TO PERFORM THE  
23 DUTIES OF AN ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, A CONSULTING PHYSICIAN, OR A LICENSED  
24 MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

25 (II) "PARTICIPATE IN AID IN DYING" DOES NOT INCLUDE:

26 1. MAKING AN INITIAL DETERMINATION THAT AN  
27 INDIVIDUAL HAS A TERMINAL ILLNESS AND INFORMING THE INDIVIDUAL OF THE  
28 MEDICAL PROGNOSIS;

29 2. PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT THIS SUBTITLE TO  
30 AN INDIVIDUAL ON THE REQUEST OF THE INDIVIDUAL; OR

31 3. PROVIDING AN INDIVIDUAL, ON REQUEST OF THE  
32 INDIVIDUAL, WITH A REFERRAL TO ANOTHER PHYSICIAN.

1           **(B) (1) A HEALTH CARE FACILITY MAY PROHIBIT A HEALTH CARE**  
2 **PROVIDER FROM PARTICIPATING IN AID IN DYING UNDER THIS SUBTITLE ON THE**  
3 **PREMISES OF THE PROHIBITING HEALTH CARE FACILITY IF THE PROHIBITING**  
4 **HEALTH CARE FACILITY HAS NOTIFIED ALL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS WITH**  
5 **PRIVILEGES TO PRACTICE ON THE PREMISES OF THE PROHIBITING HEALTH CARE**  
6 **FACILITY'S POLICY REGARDING PARTICIPATING IN AID IN DYING.**

7           **(2) THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT A HEALTH CARE**  
8 **PROVIDER FROM PROVIDING HEALTH CARE SERVICES THAT DO NOT CONSTITUTE**  
9 **PARTICIPATING IN AID IN DYING UNDER THIS SUBTITLE TO AN INDIVIDUAL.**

10           **(C) A HEALTH CARE FACILITY MAY SUBJECT A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER TO**  
11 **THE FOLLOWING SANCTIONS IF THE SANCTIONING HEALTH CARE FACILITY HAS**  
12 **NOTIFIED THE SANCTIONED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, BEFORE THE SANCTIONED**  
13 **HEALTH CARE PROVIDER PARTICIPATES IN AID IN DYING, THAT THE SANCTIONING**  
14 **HEALTH CARE FACILITY PROHIBITS PARTICIPATION IN AID IN DYING:**

15           **(1) LOSS OF PRIVILEGES, LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP, OR OTHER**  
16 **SANCTIONS PROVIDED UNDER THE MEDICAL STAFF BYLAWS, POLICIES, AND**  
17 **PROCEDURES OF THE SANCTIONING HEALTH CARE FACILITY IF THE SANCTIONED**  
18 **HEALTH CARE PROVIDER IS A MEMBER OF THE SANCTIONING HEALTH CARE**  
19 **FACILITY'S MEDICAL STAFF AND PARTICIPATES IN AID IN DYING WHILE ON THE**  
20 **PREMISES OF THE SANCTIONING HEALTH CARE FACILITY;**

21           **(2) TERMINATION OF A LEASE OR ANY OTHER PROPERTY CONTRACT**  
22 **OR OTHER NONMONETARY REMEDIES PROVIDED BY A LEASE OR OTHER PROPERTY**  
23 **CONTRACT, NOT INCLUDING LOSS OR RESTRICTION OF MEDICAL STAFF PRIVILEGES**  
24 **OR EXCLUSION FROM A PROVIDER PANEL, IF THE SANCTIONED HEALTH CARE**  
25 **PROVIDER PARTICIPATES IN AID IN DYING WHILE ON THE PREMISES OF THE**  
26 **SANCTIONING HEALTH CARE FACILITY OR ON PROPERTY THAT IS OWNED BY OR**  
27 **UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE SANCTIONING HEALTH CARE FACILITY; OR**

28           **(3) TERMINATION OF A CONTRACT OR OTHER NONMONETARY**  
29 **REMEDIES PROVIDED BY A CONTRACT IF THE SANCTIONED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER**  
30 **PARTICIPATES IN AID IN DYING WHILE ACTING IN THE COURSE AND SCOPE OF THE**  
31 **SANCTIONED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER'S CAPACITY AS AN EMPLOYEE OR**  
32 **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR OF THE SANCTIONING HEALTH CARE FACILITY.**

33           **(D) SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT:**

34           **(1) A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER FROM PARTICIPATING IN AID IN**  
35 **DYING:**

1           **(I) WHILE ACTING OUTSIDE THE COURSE AND SCOPE OF THE**  
2 **HEALTH CARE PROVIDER'S CAPACITY AS AN EMPLOYEE OR INDEPENDENT**  
3 **CONTRACTOR OF THE SANCTIONING HEALTH CARE FACILITY; OR**

4           **(II) OFF THE PREMISES OF THE SANCTIONING HEALTH CARE**  
5 **FACILITY OR OFF ANY PROPERTY THAT IS OWNED BY OR UNDER THE DIRECT**  
6 **CONTROL OF THE SANCTIONING HEALTH CARE FACILITY; OR**

7           **(2) AN INDIVIDUAL FROM CONTRACTING WITH THE INDIVIDUAL'S**  
8 **ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR CONSULTING PHYSICIAN TO ACT OUTSIDE THE COURSE**  
9 **AND SCOPE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S OR CONSULTING PHYSICIAN'S**  
10 **CAPACITY AS AN EMPLOYEE OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR OF THE SANCTIONING**  
11 **HEALTH CARE FACILITY.**

12 **5-6A-15.**

13           **(A) (1) PARTICIPATION BY A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER IN AID IN DYING**  
14 **UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IS VOLUNTARY.**

15           **(2) A HEALTH CARE FACILITY MAY NOT REQUIRE THE PHYSICIANS ON**  
16 **THE MEDICAL STAFF OF THE HEALTH CARE FACILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN AID IN**  
17 **DYING.**

18           **(B) IF AN INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS OR INDICATES AN INTEREST IN AID IN**  
19 **DYING AND THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OF THE INDIVIDUAL DOES NOT WISH TO**  
20 **PARTICIPATE IN AID IN DYING, THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN SHALL INFORM THE**  
21 **INDIVIDUAL THAT THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN DOES NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE.**

22           **(C) ON REQUEST, AN ATTENDING PHYSICIAN EXPEDITIOUSLY SHALL**  
23 **TRANSFER A COPY OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S RELEVANT MEDICAL RECORDS TO ANOTHER**  
24 **ATTENDING PHYSICIAN IF:**

25           **(1) THE INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS OR INDICATES AN INTEREST IN AID IN**  
26 **DYING;**

27           **(2) THE ORIGINAL ATTENDING PHYSICIAN IS UNABLE OR UNWILLING**  
28 **TO PARTICIPATE IN AID IN DYING FOR THE INDIVIDUAL; AND**

29           **(3) THE INDIVIDUAL TRANSFERS THE INDIVIDUAL'S CARE TO**  
30 **ANOTHER ATTENDING PHYSICIAN.**

31           **(D) A HEALTH CARE FACILITY MAY ADOPT WRITTEN POLICIES PROHIBITING**  
32 **A LICENSED PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATED WITH THE HEALTH CARE FACILITY FROM**  
33 **PARTICIPATING IN AID IN DYING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 5-6A-14 OF THIS**

1 SUBTITLE.

2 **5-6A-16.**

3 (A) A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER ACTING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE HEALTH  
4 CARE PROVIDER'S LICENSE OR CERTIFICATION AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS  
5 SUBTITLE SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE ACTING WITHIN THE STANDARD OF CARE OF THE  
6 PROVIDER'S LICENSE OR CERTIFICATION.

7 (B) THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT EXEMPT A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER FROM  
8 MEETING THE MEDICAL STANDARDS OF CARE FOR AN INDIVIDUAL'S MEDICAL  
9 TREATMENT.

10 **5-6A-17.**

11 (A) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WILLFULLY ALTERS OR FORGES A WRITTEN  
12 REQUEST MADE UNDER §§ 5-6A-02 AND 5-6A-03 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR CONCEALS  
13 OR DESTROYS A RESCISSION OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S WRITTEN REQUEST WITHOUT THE  
14 AUTHORIZATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND WITH THE INTENT OR EFFECT OF CAUSING  
15 THE INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT  
16 TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000  
17 OR BOTH.

18 (B) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO COERCES OR EXERTS UNDUE INFLUENCE ON AN  
19 INDIVIDUAL TO MAKE A WRITTEN REQUEST UNDER §§ 5-6A-02 AND 5-6A-03 OF  
20 THIS SUBTITLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENDING THE INDIVIDUAL'S LIFE OR TO  
21 DESTROY A RESCISSION OF A WRITTEN REQUEST IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND ON  
22 CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS OR A FINE  
23 NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 OR BOTH.

24 (C) A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE IMPOSED  
25 SEPARATE FROM AND CONSECUTIVE TO OR CONCURRENT WITH A SENTENCE FOR  
26 ANY CRIME BASED ON THE ACT ESTABLISHING THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

27 (D) THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT LIMIT ANY LIABILITY FOR CIVIL DAMAGES  
28 RESULTING FROM ANY OTHER NEGLIGENT CONDUCT OR INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT  
29 BY ANY PERSON.

30 **Article – Insurance**

31 **27-208.1.**

32 (A) FOR ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS AND OTHER PURPOSES  
33 GOVERNED BY THIS ARTICLE, THE DEATH OF AN INDIVIDUAL BY REASON OF THE

1 SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION PRESCRIBED UNDER TITLE 5, SUBTITLE  
2 6A OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE A DEATH FROM  
3 NATURAL CAUSES, SPECIFICALLY AS A RESULT OF THE TERMINAL ILLNESS FROM  
4 WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL SUFFERED.

5 (B) ACTIONS TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 6A OF THE  
6 HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE DO NOT, FOR ANY PURPOSE, CONSTITUTE SUICIDE,  
7 ASSISTED SUICIDE, MERCY KILLING, OR HOMICIDE.

8 (C) A PROVISION IN AN INSURANCE POLICY OR CONTRACT OR AN ANNUITY  
9 CONTRACT ISSUED OR DELIVERED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2025, IS NOT VALID TO  
10 THE EXTENT THAT THE PROVISION WOULD ATTACH CONSEQUENCES TO OR  
11 OTHERWISE RESTRICT OR INFLUENCE AN INDIVIDUAL'S DECISION TO MAKE OR  
12 RESCIND A REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING UNDER TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 6A OF THE  
13 HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE.

14 (D) AN OBLIGATION UNDER AN INSURANCE POLICY OR CONTRACT OR AN  
15 ANNUITY CONTRACT EXISTING ON OCTOBER 1, 2025, MAY NOT BE CONDITIONED ON  
16 OR AFFECTED BY THE MAKING OR RESCINDING OF A REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING  
17 UNDER TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 6A OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE.

18 (E) THE ACT BY AN INSURED OF SELF-ADMINISTERING MEDICATION FOR  
19 AID IN DYING UNDER TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 6A OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE  
20 MAY NOT HAVE AN EFFECT UNDER A LIFE INSURANCE POLICY, A HEALTH INSURANCE  
21 POLICY OR CONTRACT, OR AN ANNUITY CONTRACT THAT DIFFERS FROM THE  
22 EFFECT UNDER THE POLICY OR CONTRACT OF THE INSURED'S OR ANNUITANT'S  
23 DEATH FROM NATURAL CAUSES.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, if any provision of this Act or  
25 the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason in a  
26 court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or any other  
27 application of this Act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application,  
28 and for this purpose the provisions of this Act are declared severable.

29 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
30 October 1, 2025.