



2018 New York State YMCA
Youth And Government

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FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #: AL-26

1 **Sponsors:** Jeremy Khang, Aaron Levy, Jonathan Rucinski, Joseph Tripi

2

3 **An Act To:**

4 Amend Section 3 of the New York Consolidated Laws, Public Health Law - PBH §
5 2989 to legalize euthanasia for terminally ill patients under specific circumstances.

6

7 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and*
8 *Assembly do enact as follows:*

9

10 **Purpose:**

11 This bill will allow for the legalization of the process of euthanasia as a way to
12 respect the rights of terminally ill individuals.

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 Section 1: Definitions

15 Euthanasia: the painless killing of a patient suffering from an incurable
16 and painful disease or in an irreversible coma.

17 Terminal illness: an incurable disease that cannot be adequately treated
18 and is reasonably expected to result in the death of the patient
19 within a short period of time

20 Section 2: Provisions

21 1. A competent adult failure to appoint a health care agent or to provide the agent
22 with specific health care instructions pursuant to this article shall create no
23 presumptions regarding the adult's wishes about health care.

24 2. Nothing in this article creates, expands, diminishes, impairs or supersedes any
25 authority that a principal may have under law to make or express decisions, wishes
26 or instructions regarding health care, including decisions about life sustaining
27 treatment, whether or not expressed in a health care proxy.

28 3. ~~This article is not intended to permit or promote suicide, assisted suicide, or~~
29 ~~euthanasia; accordingly, nothing here in shall be construed to permit an agent to~~
30 ~~consent to any act or omission to which the principal could not consent under~~
31 ~~law.~~ All terminally ill individuals that are eligible to receive euthanasia must be
32 limited to one year. Evidence of pain, suffering, discomfort, etc. must be proven
33 and verified by a certified public health practitioner.

34

35 **Justification**



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36 Terminally ill individuals that are enduring physical or emotional suffering should
37 have the right to control their own destiny. If the given individual is not under a
38 correct state of mind in order to make a deliberate and thorough decision. One that
39 goes against the process must place themselves in this type of situation. One would
40 rather a family member that they hold so dearly die a peaceful death rather than
41 one characterized by downright torment. Furthermore, the cost for the drugs
42 needed to do euthanasia are significantly less expensive than providing medical
43 care.

44

45 **Fiscal Implications**

46 The treatment costs \$50-\$70. The treatment will be covered by the patient's health
47 care provider.

48

49 **Effective Date**

50 This bill will go into effect two years after passage.