

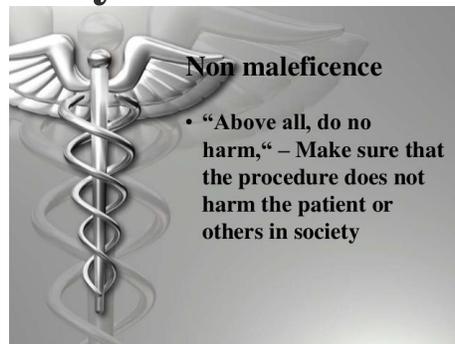


Alert

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Contact the American Medical Association to OPPOSE Physician Assisted Suicide!



Did you know that the American Medical Association is now considering withdrawing its long-standing opposition to Physician Assisted Suicide? This could have devastating effects upon all Americans, and upon future generations as well. We need your active help now.

Background:

There is an effort currently underway within the American Medical Association (AMA) to abandon its decades-long position opposing assisted suicide and take a neutral stance. At its July 2017 annual meeting, the AMA will consider taking a "neutral" position which essentially sends a green light to the states that legalizing is acceptable. However, we have recently been made aware that the AMA will hold an interim meeting on November 13 and 14 in Orlando where a special breakout session will be held on assisted suicide.

Both the national and state medical societies' opposition to doctor-prescribed suicide have been instrumental in stopping the spread of these dangerous laws. In fact, when the Vermont and California medical societies took neutral positions, it was devastating to the efforts in the legislature to block legalization. So far, here in Maine, the Maine Medical Association has opposed Physician Assisted Suicide.

Assisting suicide is now legal in Oregon, Washington, Vermont, and California, and the practice may have some legal protection in the state of Montana. As you may know, a bill to legalize doctor assisted suicide is anticipated to be brought forward in Maine again this upcoming legislative session. We must stop this in its tracks.

ACTION NEEDED

We are asking that you do the following 4 things as soon as possible. We need you to become a PRO-ACTIVE advocate on behalf of vulnerable human life!

1. WHOM TO CONTACT:

Dr. Andrew W. Gurman, MD, AMA President,
andrew.gurman@ama-assn.org
330 N Wabash, Ste 43482
Chicago IL 60611-5885
312.464.5618 ph
312.464.4094 fx

Bette Crigger, PhD, CEJA's Secretary, bette.crigger@ama-assn.org
Secretary, Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs
American Medical Association
330 N Wabash, Ste 43482
Chicago IL 60611-5885
312.464.5223 ph
312.224.6911 fx

Attorney Jennifer Popik, Director of the Robert Powell Center for Ethics at National Right to Life (Maine Right to Life's Annual Convention Keynote Speaker on Oct. 15) has suggested restricting arguments to ONE OR TWO of the following statements based on polling. Note: Do not use religious or right to life language.

2. WHAT TO SAY:

The American Medical Association (AMA) should retain its longstanding position in opposition to the legalization of doctor assisted suicide because:

- *Medical professionals should focus on providing care and comfort to patients - NOT becoming a source of lethal drugs. I would not want my doctor to have this power and suggest suicide to me as an "option."*
- *Will the government and insurance companies do the right thing - pay for treatment costing thousands of dollars - or the cheap thing - pay for lethal drugs costing hundreds of dollars?*
- *Everyone knows someone who has been misdiagnosed or outlived a terminal diagnosis.*
- *Wanting to die because of depression is treatable. Millions of people are living proof.*
- *Everyone agrees that dying in pain is unacceptable, however nearly all pain is now treatable. A patient in pain should find a new doctor.*
- *Oregon is proof that general suicides rise dramatically once assisted suicide is promoted as a "good."*
- *My family member could die from taking lethal drugs and I wouldn't know about it until he/she is dead because no family notification is required in advance.*
- *Assisted suicide is a recipe for elder and disability abuse because it can put lethal drugs in the hands of abusers.*

- *A relative who is an heir to the patient's estate or an abusive caregiver can pick up the lethal drugs and administer them without the patient's knowledge or consent. There is no oversight and no witnesses are required once the lethal drugs leave the pharmacy.*

3. ASK FOR A WRITTEN RESPONSE.

Please send any replies to Teresa@MaineRightToLife.com

4.

ASK YOUR PHYSICIAN TO CONTACT THE AMA, ALSO.

Assisted suicide is never the answer, especially at the hands of those most entrusted to our care. Killing is not compassionate nor caring. And suicide is not a civil 'right,' nor a medical treatment. We need to stop the culture of death from spreading any further. Without the AMA's opposition to assisted suicide, the so-called "right to die" could become the "duty to die" for many.

You may have heard that Belgium now allows euthanizing CHILDREN. Reports of the first child to die in Belgium after enactment of their monstrous policy are now available: <http://www.lifenews.com/2016/09/19/first-child-dies-after-belgium-approves-measure-allowing-doctors-to-euthanize-children>

ACT TODAY...for the soul and safety of our nation. **CONTACT THE AMA. It is imperative that the AMA retain and affirm its current position.**

Your Friends at Maine Right to Life Committee



Maine Right to Life Committee

PO Box 257

Auburn, ME 04212

(207) 782-0101

www.MaineRightToLife.com

