July 22 2019

End of Life Choice





Maine Legalises Death with Dignity

- Maine Governor Janet Mills signed the *Maine Death with Dignity Act* into law on June 12, 2019.
- Governor Janet Mills in signing the legislation stated "It is not up to the government to decide who may die and who may live, when they shall die or how long they shall live"
- Under the law:

terminally ill adult patients residing in Maine can obtain and self administer medication to end their lives in a humane and dignified manner
a patient's attending and consulting physicians must determine that the

patient:

has a life expectancy of six months or less has the capacity to make health care decisions is acting voluntarily

- Maine is the 10th jurisdiction to have a death with dignity statute, alongside California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Montana, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, Washington.
- Nearly 70 million Americans now live in a state with an assisted dying option.

References:

https://www.deathwithdignity.org/news/2019/06/maine-adopts-death-with-dignity/ http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/bills_129th/billtexts/HP094801.asp https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-signs-death-dignity-act-2019-06-12

South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society (SAVES)

saves.asn.au

0421 305 684



South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society

saves.asn.au



Compassion for suffering The freedom to choose Add your voice to the call



SAVES was established in 1983 to campaign for legal, medically assisted voluntary euthanasia. The aim is to end suffering by providing choice in dying. SAVES works in the community and with Members of Parliament to achieve law reform.

SAVE-YA Syndicated Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Youth Advocates

Facebook: Support SAVE-YA Law Reform

A national youth lobby group which aims to provide a youth



voice in support of legalising voluntary euthanasia in all States and Territories. Members between ages 18 and 35 are encouraged to join, make contact with their local MP and inform them of their support for voluntary euthanasia law reform.

Christians Supporting Choice For Voluntary Assisted Dying christiansforvad.org.au

We are Christians who believe that, as a demonstration of love and

compassion, those with a terminal or hopeless illness should have the option of a pain-free, peaceful and dignified death with legal voluntary assisted dying / voluntary euthanasia. This is



strongly supported by the majority of Australian Christians.

South Australian Nurses Supporting Choices in Dying

facebook: SA Nurses Supporting Choices in Dying

We are a group of passionate nurses who believe in our patient's right to choose the end of life care they wish. The group provides a forum for the



euthanasia and other patient choices in end of life care.

MY BODY MY Choice-VE

facebook.com/pages/MY-BODY-MY-Choice-VE

MBMC provides a voice for people with disability in the VE reform debate. MBMC represents the interests of people with disabilities who wish to exercise choice in all aspects of their

life, including choice at the end of life, with the view that choice and control are a fundamental human right for everyone.

MBMC argues that people with disabilities know how it feels to lose personal autonomy through their ongoing fight for self-determination, independent living and disability rights.



MBMC believes that people with disabilities, who have struggled to control their own lives and bodies, must be allowed to maintain control and autonomy throughout their life, especially at its end.

Doctors for Assisted Dying Choice

We are a national organisation of Australian medical practitioners, both current and retired, who are committed to having a legal choice of providing information and assistance to rational adults, who, for reasons of no realistic chance of cure or relief from intolerable symptoms, would like to gently end their lives.

drs4assisteddyingchoice.org

Assistance may be by doctor provision of medication for the patient to consume, or by doctor-administration.

Respecting rational patient end-of-life choices

Lawyers for Death with Dignity

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/1062e1_dd077d6dd7964 8cbaec58200361f054a.pdf

Lawyers for Death with Dignity acknowledges the need for people with profound suffering to have the legal choice for a medically assisted and dignified death.



The current law says suicide is not illegal, but assisting suicide is. People in a terminal state may have profound, unbearable suffering and be in the

undignified position of being unable to end their life without assistance.

Advances in medicine have improved life expectancy, but South Australian law has not changed to reflect the often forgotten deterioration in quality of life that a longer life expectancy may bring.

Paramedics Supporting Choices in Dying

facebook: Paramedics Supporting Choices in Dying



Paramedics Supporting Choices in Dying is an advocacy group promoting the rights of people to make decisions regarding their end of life wishes.

To go without pain, without trauma, without breaking the law, without endangering others and without suffering. To go gently, peacefully and with dignity.

We support good palliative care, encourage the use of Advance Care Directives and advocate for law reform to legalise the choice for voluntary euthanasia and voluntary assisted dying.