



California Campaign: **End-of-Life Option Act, SB 128**

About Compassion & Choices

Compassion & Choices is the nation's oldest and largest nonprofit organization working to improve care and expand choice at the end of life. We **support, educate and advocate.**

800-247-7421



The California Campaign

Our goal is to make the medical practice of aid in dying an open, accessible, and legitimate option for terminally ill, mentally competent adults in California with less than six months to live.



Previous Attempts in California

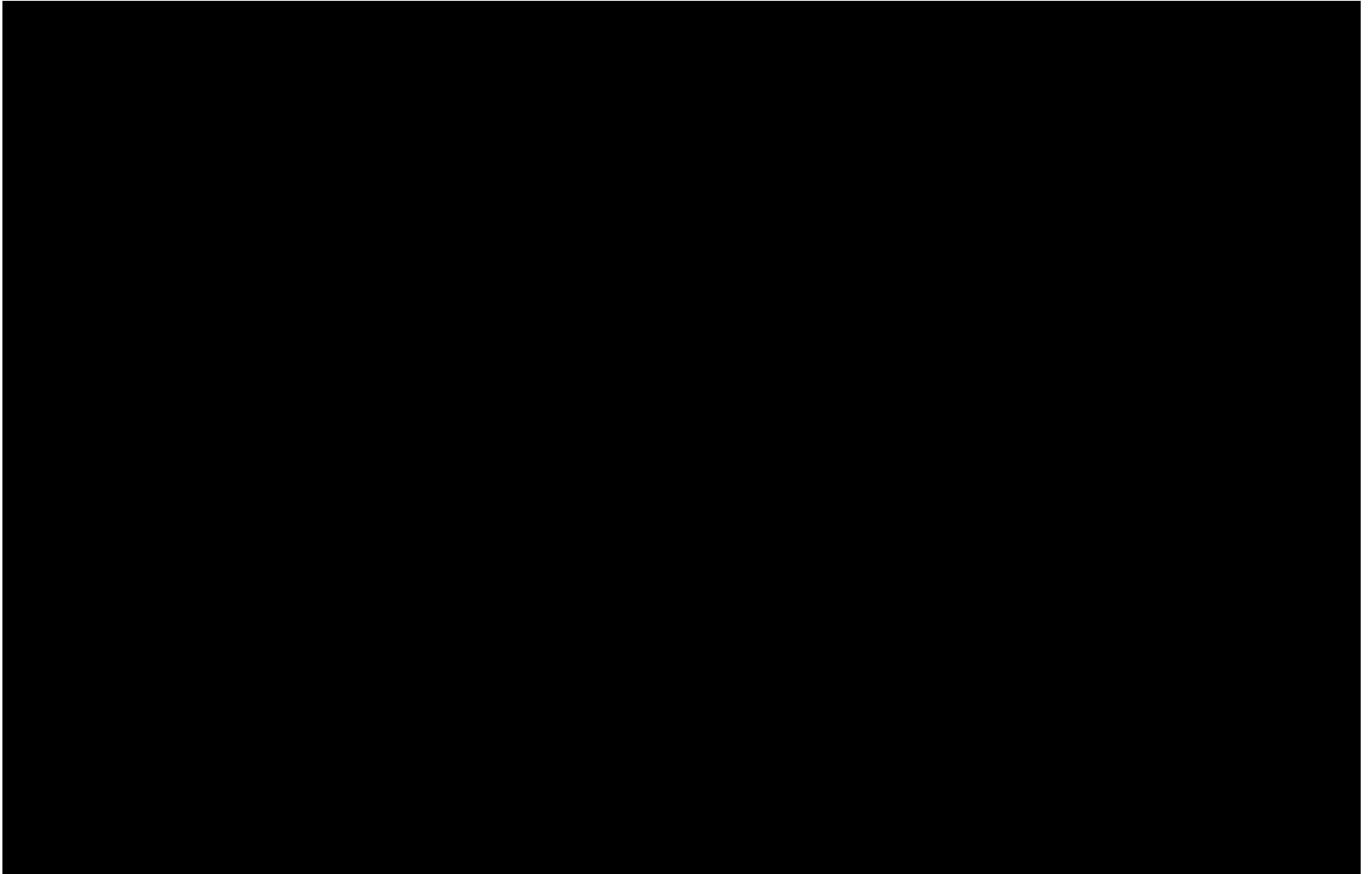
CA voters support AID, between 1988 and 2013

- 1988 ballot signature effort
- 1992 statewide ballot vote (Prop. 161)
- 1995-1996: AB 1080 and AB 1310 Death with Dignity Act (identical bills modeled on OR law)
- 1999-2000 AB 1592: California Death with Dignity Act
- 2005-2006: AB 654 / AB 651: California Compassionate Choices Act
- 2007-2008: AB 374 California Compassionate Choices Act

State Laws on Aid in Dying



- **Oregon** (1994) Oregon Death with Dignity Act (DWDA)
- **Washington** (2008) The Washington Death With Dignity Act
- **Vermont** (2014) Patient Choice at End of Life (PCEOL)
- **Montana** (2009) Baxter v Montana
- **New Mexico** (2014) Morris v New Mexico.

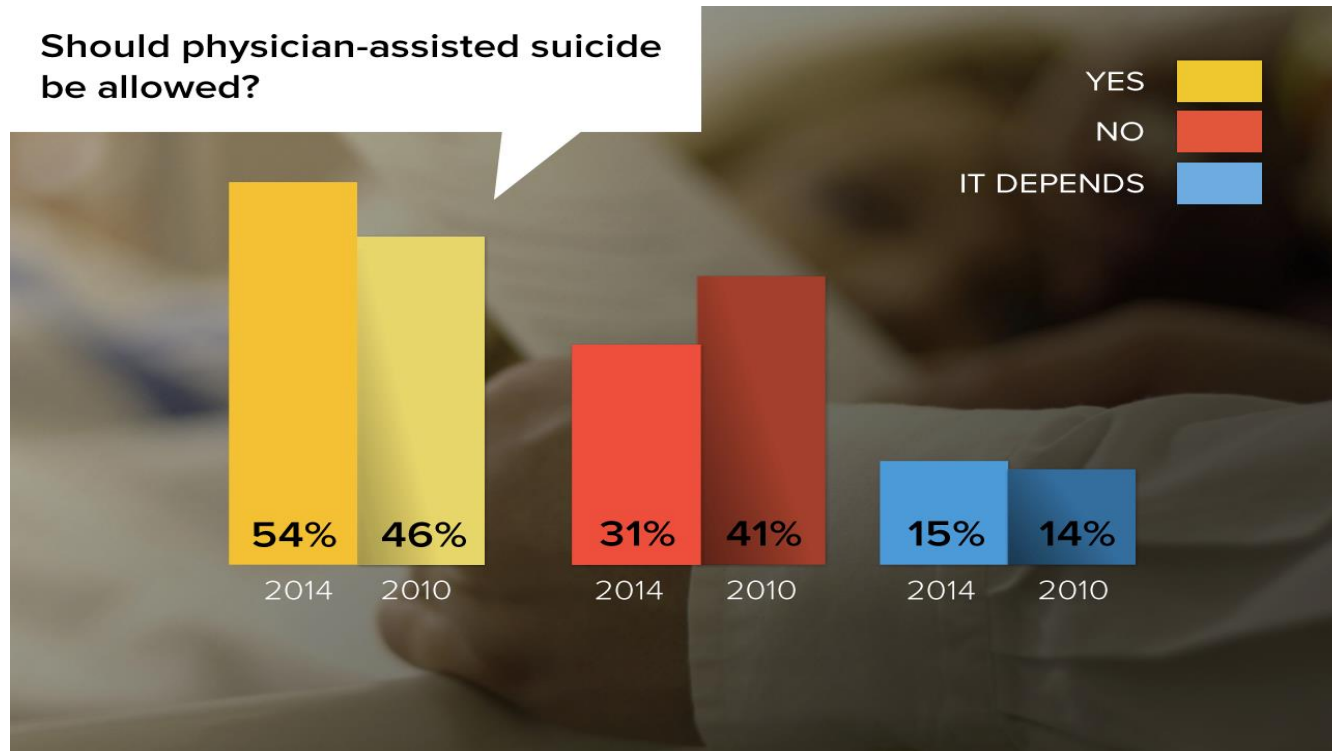


The Brittany Effect

- Brittany Maynard's voice and her story have had an immeasurably positive effect on our efforts to advance death with dignity.
- Thanks to Brittany, California supporters, donors, volunteers and legislators are standing up to support changes in our state law.
- Our movement has grown exponentially as a result.



Medscape Online Survey Results



American physicians believe by a 23 percent margin (54% vs. 31%) that patients with an “incurable and terminal” disease should have the option to choose death with dignity, also known as the medical practice of aid in dying.

Senate Bill 128- End of Life Option Act

Bill Summary

- Introduced January 20, 2015
- By Senator William Monning, Senator Lois Wolk and Assemblymember Susan Talamantes Eggman
- SB 128 would establish the End of Life Option Act in California, modeled after Oregon law that was enacted in 1997.

SB 128- Bill Specifics

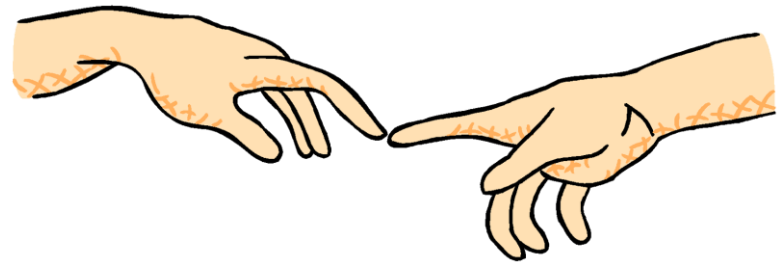
- Specifically, this bill will allow terminally ill patients the right to obtain a prescription from his or her physician for medication to be self-administered.
- It requires two physicians to confirm a prognosis of six months or less to live, a written request and two oral requests to be made a minimum of 15 days apart, and two witnesses to attest to the request.
- The two physicians must also ensure that the patient has the mental competency to make health care decisions for him or herself.

Protections in the Bill

- Includes safeguards for physicians, pharmacists and health care providers that follow the law to ensure they will be immune from civil or criminal liability or professional disciplinary action when a patient exercises this option.
- Participation for physicians, pharmacists and health care providers in this law is voluntary with the ability to opt-out.
- Measures to protect vulnerable patients are also included in the legislation by establishing felony penalties for coercing someone to request the medication or forging a request.
- The attending physician of the terminally ill patient who wishes to engage in the End of Life Option Act is required to discuss feasible alternatives or additional treatment opportunities, including but not limited to comfort care, hospice care, palliative care and pain control.
- The patient can decide not to use the prescription or can rescind his or her request for the drug at any time.

Reasons for Choosing AID

- Loss of autonomy (91.2%)
- Loss of activities of daily living (88.8%)
- Loss of dignity (82.0%)
- Loss of bodily functions (51.6%)
- Burden on caregivers / friends / family (38.6%)
- Inadequate pain control (23.5%)



How it's worked in Oregon

In Oregon the law has worked as intended, with none of the problems opponents predicted.

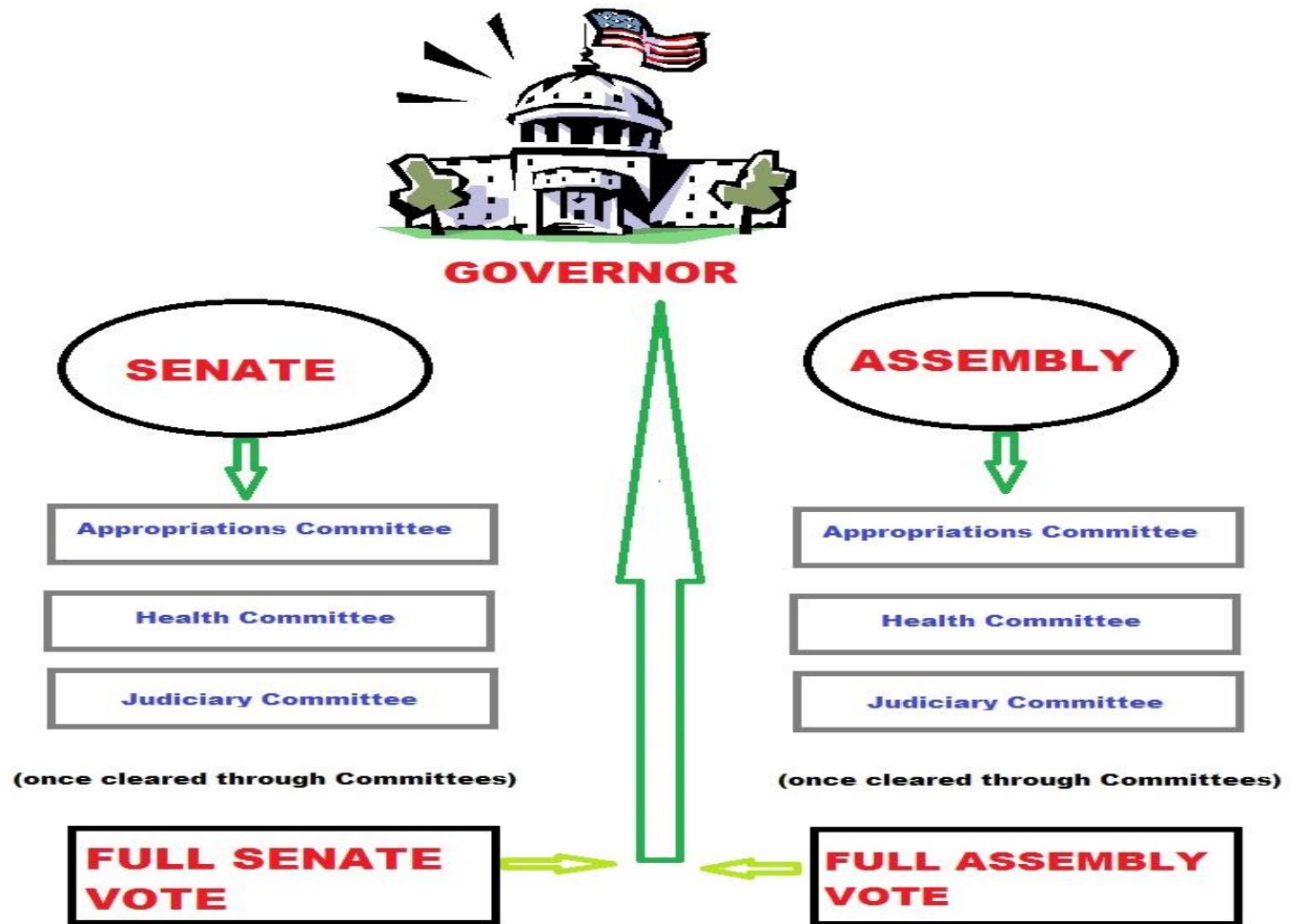
- Few use it;
- The law benefits end-of-life care, in general;
- There has NOT BEEN ONE incident of abuse.

One-third to one-half of Oregon patients who receive and fill prescriptions never consume the medication. Simply knowing they control their destiny at the end of life brings peace of mind. And thousands more take comfort just knowing the option is available.

Safeguards in place with these laws



Legislative Process



How you can help?

Senate Priority Districts:

District	Title	First Name	Last Name	Committee	Party	Priority
20	Senator	Connie	Leyva	Appropriations	D	Priority
22	Senator	Ed	Hernandez	Health	D	Priority
24	Tempore	Kevin	DeLeon		D	Priority
26	Senator	Benjamin	Allen		D	Priority
32	Senator	Tony	Mendoza	Appropriations	D	Priority
33	Senator	Ricardo	Lara	Appropriations	D	Priority
40	Senator	Ben	Hueso		D	Priority
18	Senator	Robert	Hertzberg	Judiciary	D	Priority
30	Senator	Holly	Mitchell	Health	D	Priority
31	Senator	Richard	Roth	Health	D	Priority
35	Senator	Isadore	Hall III	Health	D	Priority
39	Senator	Marty	Block		D	Priority
23	Senator	Mike	Morrell		R	
28	Senator	Jeff	Stone		R	
29	Senator	Bob	Huff		R	
34	Senator	Janet	Nguyen	Health	R	Priority
36	Senator	Patricia	Bates	Appropriations	R	Priority
37	Senator	Vacant				
38	Senator	Joel	Anderson	Judiciary	R	Priority

Priority Senators - Hueso, Mitchell, Roth, and Mendoza
Lara, Bates, Nguyen, Anderson

Assembly Priority Districts:

District	Title	First Name	Last Name	Committee
40	Assemblymember	Marc	Steinorth	Health
46	Assemblymember	Adrin	Nazarian	Health
48	Assemblymember	Roger	Hernandez	Health
51	Assemblymember	Jimmy	Gomez	Appropriations Chair, Health
52	Assemblymember	Freddie	Rodriguez	
53	Assemblymember	Miguel	Santiago	Health
54	Assemblymember	Sebastian	Ridley-Thomas	Health
62	Assemblymember	Autumn R.	Burke	Health
75	Assemblymember	Marie	Waldron	Health
76	Assemblymember	Rocky J.	Chavez	Health
77	Assemblymember	Brian	Maienschein	Health Vice Chair, Judiciary
78	Speaker	Toni G.	Atkins	Speaker

Priority Assemblymembers- Atkins ,Speaker of the Assembly
Jimmy Gomez, Appropriations Chair, Health

End-of-Life Option Act Campaign 2015



**Ground
Campaign**
Build Support to
win on the
ground

Community Engagement

- Farmers Markets
- Host House Party
- Organizational Endorsements
- Speaking Events
- Social Media

Political Engagement

- Pass End of Life Options Act Resolutions of Support within City Councils and Board of Sups.
- Legislative District Visits to your Senate/Assembly local offices.
- Letter to Senator Monning

Action Teams

- Build Base of Supporters
- Follow up with new volunteers
- Share Personal Stories
- Social Media Engagement
- Letters to the Editor
- Outreach to Doctors and other healthcare professionals
- **Donations**

I support SB 128, the End-of-Life Option Act!

I believe that terminally ill, mentally competent adults should have the right to medication they can use to achieve a peaceful death.



Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Want to Volunteer? _____

Email _____

Phone _____

* Are you a Doctor ☐ or healthcare professional ☐

* I have a personal story I'm willing to share publicly ☐

Name _____

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Q and A