

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 9-17

INTRODUCED BY: Baltimore City Medical Society

SUBJECT: Care of the Dying Patient

1 Whereas, physician assisted suicide and euthanasia are traditionally inconsistent with the physician's role
2 of curing when possible, and caring always; and

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4 Whereas, the American Medical Association has continued to affirm the caring of the dying patient with all
5 necessary pain relief and nursing care available, without purposely using means to terminate life; and

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7 Whereas the American College of Physicians and the American Nurses Association also oppose physician
8 assisted suicide and euthanasia; and

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10 Whereas, patients fearing increasing pain, can be alleviated by stressing to the patient and family, advanced
11 technology for treating pain and suffering, that currently exists; and

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13 Whereas, utilization of palliative care medicine, can meet the physical, psychological and spiritual needs of
14 such suffering patients; and

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16 Whereas, the use of hospice care can add to the security of patient care along with family concerns when
17 facing terminal care; therefore be it

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19 Resolved, that MedChi continue to support and educate physicians in their caring role of the dying patient
20 using current advanced technology, pain management, palliative and hospice care.

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23 As amended and adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on April 30, 2017.