

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 4-16

INTRODUCED BY: Montgomery County Medical Society

SUBJECT: Aid in Dying (Physician-Assisted Suicide)

1 Whereas, several states have already passed Aid in Dying (Physician-Assisted Suicide) legislation;
2 and

3 Whereas, for the second consecutive year, the End of Life Options Act was introduced to the
4 Maryland Assembly; and

5 Whereas, public and physician awareness about this important social, ethical, medical and legal
6 issue has been enhanced through media coverage of Maryland's proposed bill and a review of
7 other states' enactment of such legislation, and through public and physician educational forums;
8 and

9 Whereas, public opinion polls demonstrate changing attitudes to embrace this option as an
10 end-of-life alternative; and

11 Whereas, MedChi established policy in April, 2015 to be against physician-assisted suicide (aid in
12 dying) which is the AMA position; therefore be it

13 Resolved, that MedChi conduct a survey of physicians in the state prior to the September House of
14 Delegates 2016 meeting to determine physicians' attitudes toward the End-of-Life Option Act,
15 their opinion about whether MedChi's current position needs to be changed to neutral or support,
16 and whether, if this legislation is passed, physicians should be a part of developing the guidelines
17 for implementation.

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20 As amended and adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on April 17, 2016.