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; and

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

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

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

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

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

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