

1 H.190

2 Introduced by Representatives Garofano of Essex, Brumsted of Shelburne,  
3 McGill of Bridport, Noyes of Wolcott, Pajala of Londonderry,  
4 and Small of Winooski

5 Referred to Committee on

6 Date:

7 Subject: Health; patient choice at end of life; residency

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to eliminate the  
9 requirement that a patient who is terminally ill must be a Vermont resident in  
10 order to be prescribed medication in accordance with Vermont's patient choice  
11 at end of life laws.

12 An act relating to removing the residency requirement from Vermont's  
13 patient choice at end of life laws

14 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

15 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 5281 is amended to read:

16 § 5281. DEFINITIONS

17 As used in this chapter:

18 \* \* \*

19 (8) "Patient" means a person who is 18 years of age or older, a resident  
20 of Vermont, and under the care of a physician.

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Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 5283 is amended to read:

§ 5283. REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESCRIPTION AND  
DOCUMENTATION; IMMUNITY

(a) A physician shall not be subject to any civil or criminal liability or professional disciplinary action if the physician prescribes to a patient with a terminal condition medication to be self-administered for the purpose of hastening the patient's death and the physician affirms by documenting in the patient's medical record that all of the following occurred:

\* \* \*

(5) The physician determined that the patient:

(A) was suffering a terminal condition, based on the physician's review of the patient's relevant medical records and a physician's physical examination of the patient;

(B) was capable;

(C) was making an informed decision; and

(D) had made a voluntary request for medication to hasten the patient's own death; ~~and~~

~~(E) was a Vermont resident.~~

\* \* \*

1 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on passage.