

H.190

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

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

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

§ 5281. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

* * *

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

* * *

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.~~

* * *

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.