

No. 10. An act relating to removing the residency requirement from Vermont's patient choice at end of life laws.

(H.190)

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.~~

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Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

Date Governor signed bill: May 2, 2023