

<b>Legal Status of Assisted Suicide/Euthanasia in the United States</b>			
	<b>Current State Statutes</b>	<b>Past Legislation &amp; Ballot Initiatives</b>	<b>Court Cases</b>
Alabama	Alabama has no law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Euthanasia is prohibited in Alabama under the general homicide laws		
Alaska	Alaska has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Alaska Stat. §11.41.120 (a) (2). Euthanasia is prohibited in Alaska under the general homicide laws.		In 2001, the Alaska Supreme Court unanimously declared in the case of <i>Sampson v. Alaska</i> , 31 P.3d 88 (Alaska 2001), there is no right to assisted suicide under the Alaska constitution and upheld the Alaska law prohibiting assisted suicide.
Arizona	Arizona has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Ariz. Rev. Stat. §13-1103 (A) (3). Euthanasia is prohibited in Arizona under the general homicide laws.		
Arkansas	Arkansas has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Ark. Code §5-10-104 (a) (2), and a law which expressly prohibits physician-assisted suicide, Ark. Code §5-10-106. Euthanasia is prohibited in Arkansas under the general homicide laws.	Legislation was passed in Arkansas in 1999 to create a criminal offense for physician-assisted suicide.	
California	California has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Cal. Penal Code §401. Euthanasia is prohibited in California under the general homicide laws.	In 1992, the citizens of California defeated Proposition 161, a ballot measure to legalize euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide by a 54%-46% margin.	
Colorado	Colorado has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Colo. Rev. Stat. §18-3-104 (1) (b). Euthanasia is prohibited in Colorado under the general homicide laws.		In 2000, a petition to the Colorado Court of Appeals to legalize physician-assisted suicide ruling failed.

Connecticut	Connecticut has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Conn. Gen. Stat. §53a-56 (a). Euthanasia is prohibited in Connecticut under the general homicide laws.		
Delaware	Delaware has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Del. Code, Title 11, §645. Euthanasia is prohibited in Delaware under the general homicide laws.		
District of Columbia	The District of Columbia has no law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. It is possible that assisted suicide is prohibited under the common law. See D.C. Code §22-1807 (generally recognizing common law offenses as crimes). Euthanasia is prohibited in the District of Columbia under the general homicide laws.		
Florida	Florida has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Fla. Stat. § 782.08. Euthanasia is prohibited in Florida under the general homicide laws.		In 1997, the Florida Supreme Court declared in <i>Krischer v. McIver</i> , 697 So.2d 97 (Fla. 1997), there is no right to assisted suicide under the Florida constitution and upheld Florida's law prohibiting assisted suicide.
Georgia	In 1994, Georgia enacted a law that specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Ga. Code §16-5-5 (b) and (c). Euthanasia is prohibited in Georgia under the general homicide laws.		
Hawaii	Hawaii has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Haw. Rev. Stat. §707-702 (1) (b). Euthanasia is prohibited in Hawaii under the general homicide laws.	In 2002, the Hawaii Senate defeated legislation to legalize assisted suicide in Hawaii by a vote of 14-11.	

Idaho	Idaho has no law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. It is possible that assisted suicide is prohibited under the common law. See Idaho Code §18-303 (generally recognizing common law offenses as crimes). Euthanasia is prohibited in Idaho under the general homicide laws.		
Illinois	Illinois has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. §720 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/12-31 (a) (2). Euthanasia is prohibited in Illinois under the general homicide laws.		
Indiana	Indiana has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Ind. Code §35-42-1-2.5. Euthanasia is prohibited in Indiana under the general homicide laws.		
Iowa	Iowa has a law that specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Iowa Code § 707A.2. Euthanasia is prohibited in Iowa under the general homicide laws.		
Kansas	Kansas has a law that specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Kan. Stat. § 21-3406. Euthanasia is prohibited in Kansas under the general homicide laws.		
Kentucky	Kentucky has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Ky. Rev. Stat. § 216.302 . Euthanasia is prohibited in Kentucky under the general homicide laws.		
Louisiana	Louisiana has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. La. Rev. Stat. §14.32.12. Euthanasia is prohibited in Louisiana under the general homicide laws.		
Maine	Maine has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Me. Rev. Stat. Title 17-A, §204. Euthanasia is prohibited in Maine under general homicide laws.	In November of 2000, the citizens of Maine defeated a ballot measure to legalize physician-assisted suicide by a 51% to 49% margin.	

Maryland	Maryland has a law that specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Md. Code §3-102. Euthanasia is prohibited in Maryland under the general homicide laws		
Massachusetts	Massachusetts has no law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. It is possible that assisted suicide is prohibited under the common law. Euthanasia is prohibited in Massachusetts under the general homicide laws.		
Michigan	Michigan has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Mich. Comp. Laws §750.329a (1) and (3). Euthanasia is prohibited in Michigan under the general homicide laws.	In November of 1998, the citizens of Michigan defeated a ballot measure to legalize physician-assisted suicide by a 71% to 29% margin.	In 1994, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that the Michigan law prohibiting assisted suicide does not violate the federal constitution. <i>People v. Kevorkian</i> , 447 Mich. 436, 527 N.W.2d 714 (1994).
Minnesota	Minnesota has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Minn. Stat. §609.215. Euthanasia is prohibited in Minnesota under the general homicide laws.		
Mississippi	Mississippi has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Miss. Code §97-3-49. Euthanasia is prohibited in Mississippi under the general homicide laws.		
Missouri	Missouri has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Mo. Rev. Stat. §565.023. Euthanasia is prohibited in Missouri under the general homicide laws.		

Montana	Physician-assisted suicide is legal in Montana under a Montana Supreme Court ruling on 12/31/09 which created a consent defense for physicians who comply with a terminally ill patient's request for physician-assisted suicide. It appears that Montana's current law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide would still apply to nonphysicians. Mont. Code §45-5-105. According to the Montana Criminal Law Commission comments, if the assisted suicide results in death, the offense is criminal homicide. There is a consent defense under Montana's homicide laws. Euthanasia is prohibited in Montana under the general homicide laws.		In 2009, the Montana Supreme Court ruled, in <i>Baxter v. Montana</i> , 2009 MT 449 (Mont. 2009), that physicians who help patients commit suicide cannot be prosecuted, based on the rights granted under the state's living will law.
Nebraska	Nebraska has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-307. Euthanasia is prohibited in Nebraska under the general homicide laws.		
Nevada	Nevada has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-307. Euthanasia is prohibited in Nevada under the general homicide laws.		
New Hampshire	New Hampshire has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. N.H. Rev. Stat. §630:4. Euthanasia is prohibited in New Hampshire under the general homicide laws.	In 2000, the New Hampshire Senate defeated proposed legislation to legalize physician-assisted suicide by a vote of 19 to 5. In 2010, the New Hampshire House defeated legislation to legalize assisted suicide by a vote of 242 to 113.	
New Jersey	New Jersey has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. N.J. Stat. §2C:11-6. Euthanasia is prohibited in New Jersey under the general homicide laws.		
New Mexico	New Mexico has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. N.M. Stat. §30-2-4. Euthanasia is prohibited in New Mexico under the general homicide laws.		

New York	New York has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. N.Y. Penal Law §120.30 and §125.15. Euthanasia is prohibited in New York under the general homicide laws.		The U.S. Supreme Court ruled there is no federal constitutional right to assisted suicide and upheld the New York law prohibiting assisted suicide under the U.S. Constitution in <i>Vacco v. Quill</i> , 117 S. Ct. 2293 (1997).
North Carolina	North Carolina has no law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. It is possible that assisted suicide is prohibited under the common law. See N.C. Gen. Stat. §14-1. Euthanasia is prohibited in North Carolina under the general homicide laws.		
North Dakota	North Dakota has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. N.D. Cent. Code §12.1-16-04. Euthanasia is prohibited in North Dakota under the general homicide laws.		
Ohio	Ohio has no law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Assisting suicide is against the public policy of the state. An injunction to prohibit a person from assisting a suicide may be issued and the court may award the party requesting the injunction attorney fees. Ohio Revised Code § 3795.02. Assisting in a suicide is grounds for professional discipline of health care professionals. Ohio Revised Code §§ 4723.28, 4730.25, 4731.22 and 4761.09. Euthanasia is prohibited in Ohio under the general homicide laws.		
Oklahoma	Oklahoma has laws which specifically prohibit assisted suicide. Okla. Stat. title 21, §§813-818 and Okla. Stat. title 63, §§ 3141.1 to 3141.8 . Euthanasia is prohibited in Oklahoma under the general homicide laws.		

Oregon	Oregon has a law which specifically authorizes physician-assisted suicide, enacted by the citizens of Oregon through a ballot measure in November, 1994. Or. Rev. Stat. §§127.800 to 127.995. The new law was created through an exception to Oregon's general law which prohibits physician-assisted suicide. Or. Rev. Stat. §163.125. Euthanasia is prohibited in Oregon under the general homicide laws.	In November 1994, the citizens of Oregon legalized physician-assisted suicide through a ballot measure by a vote of 51% to 49%. In November 1997, the citizens of Oregon rejected a ballot measure to overturn Oregon's law allowing physician-assisted suicide by a vote of 60% to 40%.	In 2006, the United States Supreme Court held in <i>Gonzales v. Oregon</i> , 546 US 243 (2006), that the federal Controlled Substances Act does not allow the U.S. Attorney General to prohibit doctors from prescribing regulated drugs for use in physician-assisted suicide under Oregon's law permitting the procedure.
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. §2505. Euthanasia is prohibited in Pennsylvania under the general homicide laws.		
Rhode Island	Rhode Island has a law that specifically prohibits assisted suicide. R.I. Gen. Laws §§11-60-3 and 11-60-5. Euthanasia is prohibited in Rhode Island under the general homicide laws.		
South Carolina	South Carolina has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. S.C. Code § 16-3-1090 (B), (E), (F) and (G1). Euthanasia is prohibited in South Carolina under the general homicide laws.		
South Dakota	South Dakota has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. S.D. Codified Laws §22-16-37. Euthanasia is prohibited in South Dakota under the general homicide laws.		
Tennessee	Tennessee has a law that specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Tenn. Code Ann. §39-13-216 (a), (e), (f) and (g). Euthanasia is prohibited in Tennessee under the general homicide laws.		

Texas	Texas has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Tex. Penal Code §22.08. Euthanasia is prohibited in Texas under the general homicide laws.		
Utah	Utah has no law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Euthanasia is prohibited in Utah under the general homicide laws.		
Vermont	Vermont has no law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Assisted suicide is a common law crime in Vermont. See Vt. Stat. Title 1, §271. Euthanasia is prohibited in Vermont under the general homicide laws.	In 2007, The Vermont House defeated legislation to legalize physician-assisted suicide by a vote of 82 to 63.	
Virginia	Virginia has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Va. Code §8.01-662.1. Euthanasia is prohibited in Virginia under the general homicide laws.		
Washington	Washington has a law which specifically authorizes physician-assisted suicide, enacted by the citizens of Washington through a ballot measure in November, 2008. Wa. Rev. Code, Chapter 70.245. It appears that Washington's current law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide would still apply to nonphysicians. Wa. Rev. Code §9A.36.060	In 2008, Initiative 1000, which legalized physician-assisted suicide, was approved by the voters in the state of Washington by a vote of 58% to 42%. In 1991, the voters defeated, by a vote of 54% to 46%, Initiative 119, which would have legalized euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide.	The U.S. Supreme Court ruled there is no federal constitutional right to assisted suicide and upheld the Washington law prohibiting assisted suicide under the U.S. Constitution in <i>Washington v. Glucksberg</i> , 117 S. Ct. 2258 (1997).
West Virginia	West Virginia has no law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. It is possible that assisted suicide is prohibited under the common law, however, there is no case law that clearly indicates that assisted suicide would be a criminal act. See <i>State v. General Daniel Morgan Post No. 548</i> , 107 S.E.2d 353, 144 W.Va. 137 (W.Va., 1959). Euthanasia is prohibited in West Virginia under the general homicide laws.		



Wisconsin	Wisconsin has a law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Wis. Stat. §940.12. Euthanasia is prohibited in Wisconsin under the general homicide laws.		In 2001, a woman caregiver was found guilty under Wisconsin's law prohibiting assisted suicide for smothering her patient. The ruling was upheld by a state court of appeals. <i>State v. Trautman</i> , 2003 WI 100 (WICA, 2003).
Wyoming	Wyoming has no law which specifically prohibits assisted suicide. Wyoming does not recognize common law crimes. Euthanasia is prohibited in Wyoming under the general homicide laws.		