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The Plain Dealer/[cleveland.com](https://www.cleveland.com)
journalist Mary Frances McGowan
explores MAID throughout 2026.
Read the series at OhioOptions.org.

2026 Medical Aid in Dying (MAID) Law Status

- MAID Authorized
- MAID Authorized, non-residents
- State Supreme Court decision
- Bill introduced

State	MAID Status
WA	MAID Authorized
OR	MAID Authorized, non-residents
MT	MAID Authorized
ID	None
NV	None
UT	None
AZ	Bill introduced
CA	MAID Authorized
WY	None
CO	MAID Authorized
NM	MAID Authorized
TX	None
ND	None
SD	None
NE	None
KS	None
OK	None
AR	None
LA	None
MS	None
AL	None
GA	Bill introduced
FL	None
SC	None
TN	Bill introduced
KY	None
IN	None
OH	None
MI	None
WI	None
MN	None
IA	None
MO	None
IL	MAID Authorized
PA	Bill introduced
DE	None
MD	None
DC	None
VA	None
NC	Bill introduced
SC	None
GA	Bill introduced
FL	None
NY	MAID Authorized
CT	State Supreme Court decision
RI	None
MA	Bill introduced
NH	State Supreme Court decision
VT	None
ME	MAID Authorized
AK	None
HI	MAID Authorized

Response	Percentage
FAVOR	69%
OPPOSE	28%

The AARP - National Geographic “Second Half of Life Study, January 2022 “People aren’t afraid of death,” AARP’s Whitman says... Of greater concern is controlling the circumstances. “People want choice and self-control when dying,” she says. Most survey respondents endorse medical aid in dying.

A 501(c)4 non-profit organization.

The Facts About the U.S. Model of Medical Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill



Medical Aid in Dying (MAID) laws allow a terminally ill adult to request and qualify for a prescription from their doctor that they may take to die peacefully when they choose. It is not legal in Ohio.

There are strict requirements with proven safeguards. The person must:

- Be an adult with a terminal (incurable and irreversible) illness and six months or less to live, determined by two physicians.
- Be able to make informed decisions.
- Be acting voluntarily.
- Be capable of self-administering and ingesting medications. Euthanasia (lethal injection) is not legal in America.

There are additional steps such as oral and written requests as well as a waiting period.

Advanced age and disabilities do not qualify as terminal illnesses for MAID. The request may not be written into an Advance Directive for those with dementia or Alzheimer's.

Medical Aid In Dying is optional. All healthcare providers may opt to participate or not. Only the patient may make the request. They may rescind the request at any time.

National and State Organizational Stances:

Support:

- Medical Society of the State of New York
- New York State Academy of Family Physicians
- [New York State Bar Association](#)

Neutral:

- American Academy of Family Physicians
- American Academy of Hospice & Palliative Medicine
- American Nurses Association
- American Academy of Neurology
- Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
- The California Academy of Family Physicians
- The California Medical Association
- The Colorado Medical Society
- Medical Society of Delaware
- The Medical Society of the District of Columbia
- Hawai'i Society of Clinical Oncology
- Illinois College of Emergency Physicians
- The Maine Medical Association
- The New Mexico Medical Society
- The Oregon Medical Association
- Vermont Medical Society
- Washington Academy of Family Physicians

The American Medical Association does not support MAID but recognizes that its physicians [may practice according to their conscience](#) in states with laws.

Ohio End of Life Options fully supports access to quality hospice care. [Over 90%](#) of people who ingested MAID medication and died were also enrolled in hospice care. MAID is an additional option in end-of-life care for those who value autonomy and the freedom to control the timing and manner of their death.

Current Options for End of Life Care in Ohio:

- When diagnosed with a terminal illness, a person may opt to start, stop or not start treatments.
- Hospice is for the terminally ill with six months or less to live who are receiving no curative treatments.
 - Hospice focuses on optimizing quality of life and symptom management wherever the person lives.
 - Palliative (or terminal) sedation through hospice or in an inpatient setting is rarely used.
- Voluntarily Stopping Eating and Drinking (VSED) as a patient choice and requires medical support.
- Advance Directive: Appoints Health Care Proxy and directs life sustaining and medical treatment wishes if terminally ill AND not capable of making decisions OR in a permanently unconscious state.
- DNR-CC Form: A portable medical order filled out along with one's current health care provider.



OhioOptions.org

