

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999
4

As Engrossed: H2/3/99 H2/8/99

A Bill

Act 394 of 1999
HOUSE BILL 1298

5 By: Representative J. Jeffress
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO CREATE THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF PHYSICIAN
10 ASSISTED SUICIDE; TO PRESCRIBE PENALTIES; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

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13 "TO CREATE THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF
14 PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE; TO PRESCRIBE
15 PENALTIES."
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. (a) For purposes of this act, "physician assisted suicide"
22 means a physician or health care provider participating in a medical procedure
23 or willfully prescribing any drug, compound or substance for the express
24 purpose of assisting the patient to intentionally end his or her life;
25 provided, however, this term shall not apply to a person participating in the
26 execution of a person sentenced by a court to death by lethal injection.

27 (b)(1) It shall be unlawful for any physician or health care provider
28 to commit the offense of physician assisted suicide by prescribing any drug,
29 compound or substance to a patient with the express purpose of assisting the
30 patient to intentionally end his or her life.

31 (2) It shall be unlawful for any physician or health care
32 provider to commit the offense of physician assisted suicide by assisting in
33 any medical procedure for the express purpose of assisting the patient to
34 intentionally end his or her life.

35 (c) Any physician or health care provider violating the provisions of
36 subsection (b) of this section shall be deemed guilty of a Class C felony.

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1 (d) Nothing in this act shall prohibit physicians or health care
2 providers from carrying out Advanced Directives or Living Wills, nor shall
3 this act prohibit physicians from prescribing any drug, compound or substance
4 for the specific purpose of pain relief.

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6 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
7 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
8 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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10 SECTION 2. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
11 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
12 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect wi thout
13 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
14 act are declared to be severable.

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16 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
17 hereby repealed.

18 /s/ J. Jeffress

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21 APPROVED: 3/3/1999
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