State of Arkansas
As Engrossed: S3/27/19
A Bill
SENATE BILL 503

For An Act To Be Entitled
AN ACT CONCERNING THE OFFENSE OF PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle
CONCERNING THE OFFENSE OF PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 5-10-106 is amended to read as follows:
5-10-106. Physician-assisted suicide.
(a)(1) As used in this section, “physician-assisted suicide” means a physician or health care provider participating in a medical procedure or knowingly prescribing any drug, compound, or substance for the express purpose of assisting a patient to intentionally end the patient’s life.
(2) However, “physician-assisted suicide” does not apply to a person participating in the execution of a person sentenced by a court to death by lethal injection.
(b) It is unlawful for any physician or health care provider to commit the offense of physician-assisted suicide by:
(1) Prescribing any drug, compound, or substance to a patient with the express purpose of assisting the patient to intentionally end the patient’s life; or
(2) Assisting in any medical procedure for the express purpose of assisting a patient to intentionally end the patient’s life.
(c) Upon conviction, any physician or health care provider violating subsection (b) of this section is guilty of Physician-assisted suicide is a Class C felony.

(d) Nothing in this section prohibits This section does not prohibit a:

(1) Physician or healthcare provider from carrying out an advanced directive or living will; or

(2) Physician from prescribing any drug, compound, or substance for the specific purpose of pain relief.

/s/Bledsoe

APPROVED: 4/12/19