

THE FACTS

END OF LIFE CHOICE ACT WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

At the 2020 General Election you will be asked if the End of Life Choice Act 2019 should come into force. Your vote matters. If the referendum passes, medical practitioners will have the ability to end the life of their patients or give them the drugs to do so. The following are SOME of the provisions of the Act. Please take the time to learn as much as you can and discover the ongoing implications of this Act before you vote.



**THIS ACT LEGALISES EUTHANASIA AND ASSISTED SUICIDE.
IT CAN NEVER BE SAFE BECAUSE THE LAW IS ABOUT KILLING
ANOTHER HUMAN BEING OR ASSISTING THEM TO TAKE THEIR OWN LIFE.**

1

ASSISTED SUICIDE BY

- Ingestion of drugs
- OR
- Intravenous drugs

TRIGGERED
BY PERSON

2

EUTHANASIA BY

- Ingestion of drugs through a tube
- OR
- Injection

GIVEN BY A MEDICAL OR
NURSE PRACTITIONER

BE INFORMED!



YOU WILL BE ASKED TO VOTE YES OR NO
TO THIS REFERENDUM QUESTION:

DO YOU SUPPORT THE END OF LIFE
CHOICE ACT 2019 COMING INTO FORCE?

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- 18 years +
- NZ Citizen or Permanent Resident
- Terminally ill and likely to die within 6 months
- Be in a state of advanced irreversible decline in physical capability
 - Experience unbearable suffering
- Be competent to make an informed decision

2 DOCTORS MUST AGREE A PERSON IS ELIGIBLE

If one or both believe the person is not capable of making an informed decision a psychiatrist must assess the person and decide if they are capable.

4

Working days is all that stands between requesting to die and ingesting the lethal drugs that will cause death. In other jurisdictions a longer cooling off period is required.

THESE ACTIONS ARE ETHICAL AND ALREADY LEGAL

- Turning off life support
- Signing a 'do not resuscitate' order
- Providing enough medication to alleviate pain

Word of caution: always ensure you know what you are agreeing to and have someone that understands your wishes to act on your behalf.

Interpretations can differ.

IN THE CRIMES ACT, 1961
people have an obligation to protect people from killing themselves
or from being killed by another. This Act makes an exception to that obligation.

SIMILAR LAWS IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS TENDS TO BECOME MORE AND MORE PERMISSIVE OVER TIME.