

FISCAL ESTIMATE
DOA-2048 N(R10/94)

- ORIGINAL UPDATED
 CORRECTED SUPPLEMENTAL

LRB or Bill No./Adm. Rule No.
SB 124/LRB-2374/2

Amendment No. if Applicable

Subject

Permitting certain individuals to make written requests for medication for the purpose of ending their lives, and providing penalties

Fiscal Effect

State: No State Fiscal Effect

Check columns below only if bill makes a direct appropriation or affects a sum sufficient appropriation.

- Increase Existing Appropriation Increase Existing Revenues
 Decrease Existing Appropriation Decrease Existing Revenues
 Create New Appropriation

Increase Costs - May be possible to Absorb Within Agency's Budget Yes No

Decrease Costs

Local: No local government costs

1. Increase Costs
 Permissive Mandatory
2. Decrease Costs
 Permissive Mandatory

3. Increase Revenues
 Permissive Mandatory
4. Decrease Revenues
 Permissive Mandatory

5. Types of Local Governmental Units Affected:
 Towns Villages Cities
 Counties Others _____
 School Districts WTCS Districts

Fund Sources Affected

- GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEG-S

Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations

s.20.475(1)(d)

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill does not create any new criminal statutes with regard to the action of prescribing medication with the intent to terminate a patient's life. A doctor who prescribes medication to a patient with the intent to cause that patient's death in a manner that is not permitted under this bill can be prosecuted under existing statutes.

There are three new crimes created that focus on the misuse or abuse of the "Death with Dignity" process. The number of instances of such cases is expected to be very small.

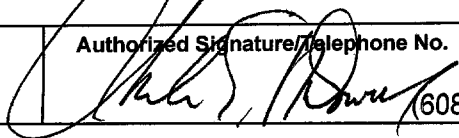
Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The establishment by this bill of formal legal procedures under which an attending physician may knowingly prescribe medications to a terminally ill patient that will end that patient's life may result in a closer review of all medical practices of physicians vis-à-vis their terminally ill patients. To the extent that this review occurs and is institutionalized, instances of unauthorized administration of medications that have the effect of ending patients' lives may be uncovered. Were this to happen, there may be created an additional workload for district attorneys offices.

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Date

April 28, 1999