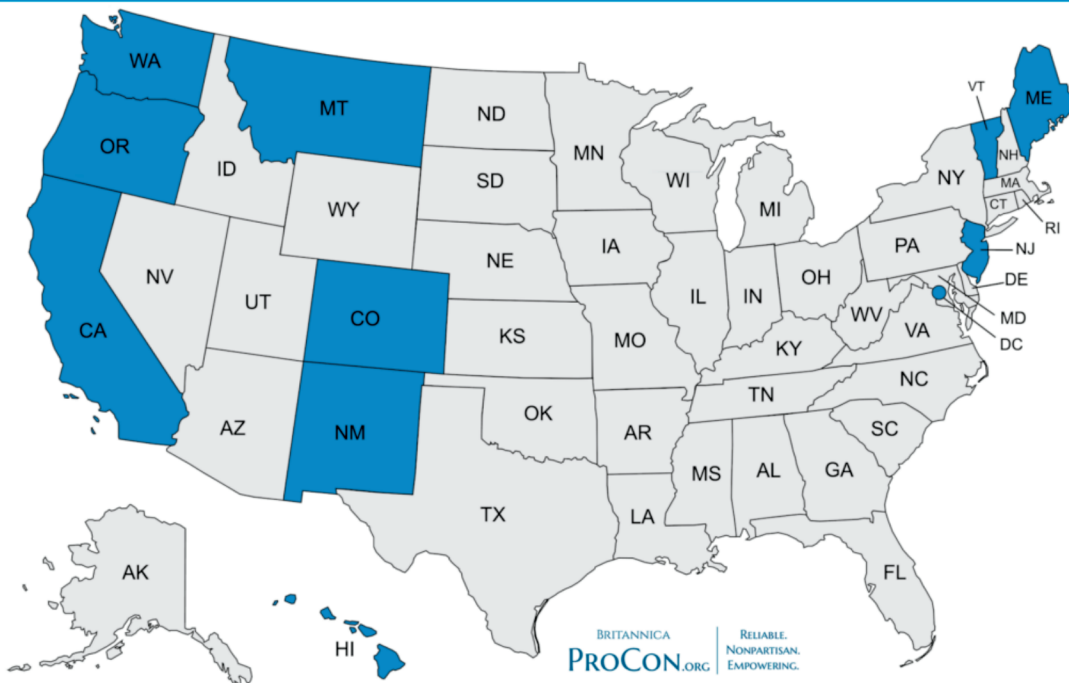


# Physician Assisted Suicide - Coming to a State Near You

A May 2018 Gallup Poll indicated that 72% of Americans believe in allowing doctors to "end the patient's life by some painless means." However, when described as doctors "helping a patient commit suicide," that number drops to 65%. Words are incredibly important when it comes to teaching and preaching.

Messages about Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS) are spun into lies like "medical aid in dying," "compassionate relief of suffering," or "death with dignity." They craft wording to define away reality, and to circumvent laws protecting citizens from assisted suicide, euthanasia and mercy killing. And, many in our LCMS congregations are hearing and believing these twisted and deceitful messages.

## States and DC with Legal Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)



Map & Stats From ProCon.org: [euthanasia.procon.org/states-with-legal-physician-assisted-suicide](https://euthanasia.procon.org/states-with-legal-physician-assisted-suicide)

### 10 States and DC have Legalized Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS)

- 9 states (CA, CO, HI, ME, NJ, NM, OR, VT, and WA) and DC legalized PAS via legislation
  - 1 of the 9 states (NJ) is considering legislation to repeal its PAS law
- 1 state (MT) has legal PAS via court ruling

### 40 States Consider Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS) Illegal

- 33 states have laws prohibiting PAS
- 3 states (AL, MA, and WV) prohibit PAS by common law
  - 1 of the 3 states (WV) is considering a constitutional amendment prohibiting PAS
- 4 states (NV, NC, UT, and WY) have no specific laws regarding PAS, may not recognize common law, or are otherwise unclear on the legality of PAS

### 14 States with Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS) Bills Introduced in 2024

- 14 states (IA, MN, MO, WI, IL, KY, TN, NC, PA, NY, DE, NH, MA, RI) with PAS bills introduced in 2024

### 0 Federal Laws on Euthanasia and Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS)

- The federal government and all 50 states prohibit euthanasia under general homicide laws. The federal government does not have PAS laws. Those laws are generally handled at the state level.