

## League of Women Voters Of Utah

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## POSITIONS ON DEATH WITH DIGNITY

The League of Women Voters of Utah has released a two-point consensus position statement based on our recent study "Death with Dignity."

The <u>study</u> provides information about laws in the five states currently allowing terminally ill persons to request physician aid in dying, as well as a detailed history of death with dignity through the ages.

## Our position states:

- 1. The League of Women Voters of Utah believes state laws should grant the option for a terminally ill person to request medical assistance from a relevant, licensed physician to end one's life.
- 2. The League of Women Voters of Utah believes such legislation should include safeguards against abuse for the dying and/or medical personnel.

<u>Death with Dignity</u> legislation has become of increasing public interest and concern. Currently five states have legislation allowing physician aid in dying - Oregon, Washington, Montana, Vermont and California. Additionally, interpretation of physician assisted dying legal standing is under review in New Mexico. It is anticipated that this issue will remain on legislative agendas not just in Utah, but many other states as well.

The League of Women Voters of Utah takes action to monitor and advocate for legislation that supports our position statements. For additional information please contact the study Chair, Vickie Samuelson, <a href="mailto:vsam0236@gmail.com">vsam0236@gmail.com</a>.

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