

A BETTER EXIT'S MISSION

TO BROADEN CALIFORNIA'S END OF LIFE OPTION ACT (EOLOA) TO INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS SUFFERING FROM PROGRESSIVE, INCURABLE DISEASES THAT ARE NOT CURRENTLY COVERED UNDER THE LAW, THEREBY GIVING THEM THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE A LEGAL AND PEACEFUL DEATH WITH MEDICAL AID IN DYING (MAID).

California's EOLOA History:

- ✦ California's EOLOA went into effect 6/9/2016
- ✦ Modeled after Oregon's Death with Dignity Law enacted in 1997

Other United States Jurisdictions with MAID:

- ✦ Oregon ~1997-
- ✦ Washington & Montana ~2009-
- ✦ Vermont ~2013
- ✦ Colorado ~2016-
- ✦ Washington DC ~2017-
- ✦ Hawaii, New Jersey, & Maine ~2019-
- ✦ New Mexico ~2021-
- ✦ Delaware, Illinois, & New York ~2026-

Other Countries with MAID:

Austria, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Germany, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands, & Uruguay



Who Qualifies for MAID?

- ✦ Must be a California resident
- ✦ Must be 18+ years old
- ✦ Must have a terminal illness with six months or less to live
- ✦ Must be mentally competent to make health care decisions
- ✦ Must be self-administered — for those who can't swallow, the medication can be administered through an NG tube, feeding tube, or rectal tube with the patient pushing the plunger on a syringe filled with the medication

How to Access MAID:

- ✦ One written request by the patient witnessed by two people
- ✦ Two verbal requests by the patient to the prescribing physician at least 48 hours apart
- ✦ Two physicians to assess that the patient meets eligibility requirements

Department of Public Health's July 2026 Report:

In 2025:

- ✦ 1,839 prescriptions written with 1,235 people taking the medication
- ✦ 92.7% were 60 or older
- ✦ 62.8% had cancer
- ✦ 12.6% had cardiovascular disease
- ✦ 94.3% were receiving hospice &/or palliative care
- ✦ 75.4% had at least some level of college education
- ✦ 97.7% had health insurance

Where to Find a Prescribing Physician:

- ✦ The Patient to Doctor Referral System at the Academy of Aid-in-Dying Medicine at www.aadm.org
- ✦ End of Life Choices California
 - ✦ www.endoflifechoices.org
 - ✦ 760-636-8009
 - ✦ info@endoflifechoices.org

Why A Better Exit Finds Our Current Law Too Restrictive:

- ✦ By the time someone with dementia is within six months of dying, they will no longer have the mental capacity to choose MAID.
- ✦ By the time someone with ALS, Parkinson's, or Multiple Sclerosis is within six months of dying, they may no longer be able to swallow or have the strength or coordination to self-administer the medication.

Our Current Objectives:

- ✦ Grant those with dementia & other progressive neurodegenerative diseases access to MAID **before** they lose their mental capacity to make this choice or the physical ability to self-administer the medication.
- ✦ Provide all patients the option of an IV method in addition to the current ingested method, with both remaining self-administered.

How can you help A Better Exit achieve our mission?

- ✦ Visit our website to sign up in support.
- ✦ Email or visit the district office of your Senator & Assemblymember requesting expansion of MAID in California.
- ✦ Encourage your friends & family to visit our website & sign up in support.