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## Care and Choice at the End of Life

## NEW YORK

## 2015-16 Research Report

## Support of Aid In Dying

$77 \%$ of respondents support access to aid in dying. After learning more about the bill, including arguments against aid in dying, support for the option increases to 81\%. (EP)


Support (81\%)


Leaders
of respondents overall are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports death with dignity or say it will not affect their vote.

## 66\%

say it makes them much more or somewhat more likely to vote for that candidate, 14\% less likely.

as many people say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports aid in dying as less likely.

Allowing a terminally ill, competent adult the option to request aid in dying life ending medication is strongly supported by NY State voters. Clear majorities extend across lines based on respondents' religious affiliation, level of education, political party enrollment, gender, age, and region of state. (Eagle Point)


18-35
In all age groups, over 72\% of respondents supported aid in dying, with the highest support ( $80 \%$ ) in the 35 to 59 age group and the lowest in the 60+ (72\%).

35-59 After hearing more information about aid in dying, young people became the most supportive, with $85 \%$ in favor (compared to 79\% before).

Among those 60+, support for aid in dying was $76 \%$ after hearing more information.


## Conservative Support

Support for aid in dying is the same in Republican Senate districts as in the state overall - 77\%. The oversample of Republicans (which increased the percentage of Rs in the sample to 35\% from 25\%) showed the same overall support - 77\%. Even among Conservative Rs, $49 \%$ would be more likely to vote for a supporter of aid in dying, and only $27 \%$ would be less likely, almost a $2: 1$ ratio


Support By Vote History
$75 \%$
of those who voted in both 2012 and 2014 are more likely to support a candidate who supports aid in dying versus only $17 \%$ who said it would make them less likely.

## Race:

African American


## Support By Regions of NY



In the regular survey, Over $65 \%$ of voters in all regions would be more likely to vote for someone who supported aid in dying. That number is highest in the suburbs (71\%)


In the oversample, in every region a majority of voters said they would be more likely to vote for a candidate that supported aid in dying. 59\% in NYC, 68\% in the suburbs, and $62 \%$ upstate. Only $23 \%$ of those in NYC said they would be less likely, 9\% in the suburbs, and $18 \%$ in upstate in NYC.


## 

The only subgroup where respondents are not a clear majority are those that attend religious services more than once per week. However, only $5.4 \%$ of respondents attend services more than once per week. Because that subgroup is so small, the largest percentage of those saying "no" to aid in dying is actually the group that attends church once per week. They make up $47 \%$ of those who said "no" to aid in dying, even though they make up just $25 \%$ of the surveyed population. Yet, even among that group, $63 \%$ feel that an adult should have the option of using aid in dying life ending medication if terminally ill. Those who attend a few times a month or only on special occasions were particularly responsive to arguments in favor of aid in dying. Their support increased $\sim 5 \%$ at the end of the poll, and their opposition did not increase.

63\%would be more likely to vote for someone who supported aid in dying. Among Jewish voters, $74 \%$ would be more likely to vote for a candidate that supported aid in Of Catholic, Protestant, Jewish or Other

