

## RIGHT-TO-DIE IN PROGRESS

Various forms of medically assisted dying and/or assisted suicide for the terminally or hopelessly ill competent adult have been approved (which is legalised or accepted) by 2011 in the following eleven states and nations. Each has its own rules and guidelines. All but Switzerland and Colombia forbid foreigners coming for this type of help to die. Although the BeNeLux laws do not explicitly formulate a residency requirement, the solution is made to have a "good doctor-patient relationship" as a prerequisite for legal aid-in-dying. At least this would prevent tourism.

1. Switzerland (1940)
2. Hawaii (1909, 2004)
3. Oregon (1994)
4. Georgia US (1994)
5. Colombia (1997)\*
6. Albania (1999)
7. The Netherlands (2002) \*
8. Belgium (2002) \*
9. Luxembourg (2009)\*
10. Washington (2008)
11. Montana (2009)

### *Notes.*

- England & Wales (2010) First prosecutorial policy statement about who will, or will not, risk criminal charges when assisting a suicide. Not a law but a big step forward.
- Georgia passed its law in 1994 but not until 2011 did its Attorney-General confirm that doctors were able to assist suicide of the advanced terminally ill provided there was no publicity.
- Research by Compassion & Choices and the Final Exit Network (both USA) has recently uncovered assisted dying laws previously not understood in Hawaii and Georgia.
- Albania's law is obscure and disputed.
- The four states with asterisk (\*) also permit (voluntary) euthanasia (a lethal injection). The others permit only physician-assisted suicide (oral).

*(thanks to ERGO)*