

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend, on an emergency basis, the Death with Dignity Act of 2016 (“2016 Act”) to give the Department of Health discretion whether to create a form that attending physicians must use to submit information required to be reported under the 2016 Act; to require attending physicians to maintain documentation required by the 2016 Act for a minimum of 5 years; to specify that the data tracking required by the 2016 Act shall be done in paper or spreadsheet form; to give the Department discretion whether to issues rules regarding implementation of the 2016 Act; and repealing the applicability clause.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Death with Dignity Emergency Amendment Act of 2017”.

Sec. 2. The Death with Dignity Act of 2016, effective February 18, 2017 (D.C. Law 21-182; 63 DCR 15697), is amended as follows:

(a) Section 6 is amended as follows:

(1) Subsection 6(e) is amended to read as follows:

“(e) Within 30 days after a health care provider dispenses a covered medication, the attending physician shall mail to the Director of the Department a copy of the information required by section 7, provided that the Department may:

“(1) Create and require the use of a form to facilitate the filing of this information

“(2) Provide additional means for attending physicians to submit the information

35 required by section 7 to the Department.”.

36 (b) Section 7 is amended by adding a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

37 “(b) The attending physician shall maintain the documentation required by this section
38 for a minimum of 5 years.

39 (c) Section 8 is amended by adding a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

40 “(c) The Department shall track the data for the report required by this section in paper or
41 electronic spreadsheet form.”.

42 (d) Section 15(a) is amended by adding by striking the phrase “shall issue” and inserting
43 the phrase “may issue” in its place.

44 (e) The first section 18 is repealed.

45 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

46 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Budget Director as the fiscal impact
47 statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975, approved
48 October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

49 Sec. 4. Effective date.

50 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
51 Mayor, action by Council to override the veto), and shall remain in effect for no longer than 90
52 days, as provided for emergency acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section 412(a)
53 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 788; D.C.
54 Official Code § 1-204.12(a)).