

Medical Aid in Dying in the United States

Chronology by Effective / Operational Date - As of September 2026

This chronology orders the jurisdictions by the date Medical Aid in Dying (MAID) became legally effective or operational. For Montana, the date shown is the date of the controlling Montana Supreme Court decision.

Order	State / Jurisdiction	Law or Court Authority	Effective / Operational
1	Oregon	Oregon Death with Dignity Act	1997
2	Washington State	Washington Death with Dignity Act (Initiative 1000)	Mar. 5, 2009
3	Montana	Baxter v. State, 2009 MT 449	Dec. 31, 2009
4	Vermont	Patient Choice at End of Life, 18 V.S.A. ch. 113 (Act 39)	May 20, 2013
5	California	End of Life Option Act	June 9, 2016
6	Colorado	Colorado End-of-life Options Act	Dec. 16, 2016
7	Washington, D.C.	Death with Dignity Act of 2016	Feb. 18, 2017
8	Hawaii	Our Care, Our Choice Act	Jan. 1, 2019
9	New Jersey	Medical Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act	Aug. 1, 2019
10	Maine	Maine Death with Dignity Act	Sept. 19, 2019
11	New Mexico	Elizabeth Whitefield End-of-Life Options Act	June 18, 2021
12	Delaware	The Ron Silverio/Heather Block End of Life Options Law	Jan. 1, 2026
13	New York	Medical Aid in Dying Act	Aug. 5, 2026
14	Illinois	End-of-Life Options for Terminally Ill Patients Act (Deb's Law)	Sept. 12, 2026

Note: Montana is included chronologically as the third state, but it does not have a MAID statute. Its authority comes from *Baxter v. State*, 2009 MT 449, decided Dec. 31, 2009.

Source: DWD Master State Comparison, verified September 17, 2026.

Medical Aid in Dying: U.S. Chronology

States and jurisdictions listed in the order Medical Aid in Dying became effective or operational. As of September 2026.

1. Oregon - 1997

Law / authority: Oregon Death with Dignity Act

Study Guide Wording

"Oregon was the 1st state and 1st U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

2. Washington State - March 5, 2009

Law / authority: Washington Death with Dignity Act (Initiative 1000)

Study Guide Wording

"Washington State was the 2nd state and 2nd U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

3. Montana - December 31, 2009

Law / authority: Baxter v. State, 2009 MT 449

Study Guide Wording

"Montana was the 3rd state and 3rd U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

4. Vermont - May 20, 2013

Law / authority: Patient Choice at End of Life (18 V.S.A. ch. 113; Act 39)

Study Guide Wording

"Vermont was the 4th state and 4th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

5. California - June 9, 2016

Law / authority: End of Life Option Act

Study Guide Wording

"California was the 5th state and 5th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

6. Colorado - December 16, 2016

Law / authority: Colorado End-of-Life Options Act

Study Guide Wording

"Colorado was the 6th state and 6th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

7. Washington, D.C. - February 18, 2017

Law / authority: Death with Dignity Act of 2016

Study Guide Wording

"Washington, D.C. was the 7th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

8. Hawaii - January 1, 2019

Law / authority: Our Care, Our Choice Act

Study Guide Wording

"Hawaii was the 7th state and 8th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

9. New Jersey - August 1, 2019

Law / authority: Medical Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act

Study Guide Wording

"New Jersey was the 8th state and 9th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

10. Maine - September 19, 2019

Law / authority: Maine Death with Dignity Act

Study Guide Wording

"Maine was the 9th state and 10th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

11. New Mexico - June 18, 2021

Law / authority: Elizabeth Whitefield End-of-Life Options Act

Study Guide Wording

"New Mexico was the 10th state and 11th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

12. Delaware - January 1, 2026

Law / authority: The Ron Silverio/Heather Block End of Life Options Law

Study Guide Wording

"Delaware was the 11th state and 12th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

13. New York - August 5, 2026

Law / authority: Medical Aid in Dying Act

Study Guide Wording

"New York was the 12th state and 13th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

14. Illinois - September 12, 2026

Law / authority: End-of-Life Options for Terminally Ill Patients Act (Deb's Law)

Study Guide Wording

"Illinois was the 13th state and 14th U.S. jurisdiction to allow Medical Aid in Dying (MAID)."

Note on Montana: Montana is included chronologically because Medical Aid in Dying is court-authorized there under *Baxter v. State*, 2009 MT 449. Montana does not have a Medical Aid in Dying statute.

Counting note: This document uses the date each jurisdiction became effective or operational. Lists based on enactment or signing dates may produce a different ordinal count, particularly for New York and Illinois.