As adopted by the House of Delegates, August 1997

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
COMMISSION ON LEGAL PROBLEMS OF THE ELDERLY
REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

RECOMMENDATION

RESOLVED, That any consideration of the matter of physician-assisted suicide which involves personal, religious, emotional, medical, legal and ethical considerations and considerations of appropriate care alternatives, supportive services, pain relief, potential for abuse, legal protection, competency and needed research in many fields, should be left to be resolved by state legislatures and their electorates after extensive and informed public discussion.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That in the event that any state or territory chooses to adopt legislation permitting physician-assisted suicide, it should ensure that information and reporting systems are established to achieve close monitoring of the impact of such practices, especially with respect to vulnerable populations who may be particularly at risk if such practices are authorized.