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**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS**
of New York State

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF:
A.4321-A (Paulin)/ S.6471 (Savino)

To: New York State Assembly and Senate
Date: April 25, 2022
Subject: An act to amend the public health law, in relation to a terminally ill patient's request for and use of medication for medical aid in dying.

The League of Women Voters of New York State (LWVNYS) supports the above referenced legislation which would provide that a mentally competent, terminally ill patient may request medication to be self-administered for the purpose of hastening the patient's death provided the requirements set forth in the act are met, and to provide certain protections and immunities to health care providers and other persons, including a physician who prescribes medication in compliance with the provisions of the article to the terminally ill patient to be self-administered by the patient.

The League of Women Voters believes that state laws should grant the option for a terminally ill person to request medical assistance from a relevant, licensed physician to end one's life. We believe such legislation should include safeguards against abuse of the dying and protections for medical personnel who act in good faith compliance with the law.

We feel this bill adequately addresses concerns surrounding consent and accessibility. The League feels this bill has sufficient safeguards in place to ensure protection of vulnerable populations and medical personnel who may be morally opposed to aid in dying. This reform will give terminally ill patients access to safe, comprehensive end of life options.

For the above reasons, the League of Women Voters of New York State urges your support of A.4321-A (Paulin)/S.6471 (Savino).