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To: Interested Parties

Subject: Nevada Voters Overwhelmingly Support Proposal to Grant Terminally Ill Patients the Right to End Life

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A new Public Policy Polling survey finds that Nevada voters are decisively in favor of a bill being considered by the state legislature that would expand terminally ill patients’ rights to obtain a physician’s prescription for life-ending medication. Almost three-in-four Nevadans (72%) support the proposal, while just 23% oppose it. Support for the bill is bipartisan, diverse, and broad-based, with majorities of women (69%), men (76%), Democrats (80%), Republicans (66%), Independents (67%), Hispanic voters (63%), Catholic voters (76%), Protestants (65%), voters with no religion (80%), voters age 18 to 29 (54%), voters 30 to 45 (63%), voters 46 to 65 (76%), and voters over 65 (81%) all in favor of expanding the rights of the terminally ill.

Key findings from the survey include:

- Support for the proposal grew as voters heard more about the measure. After listening to a series of statements about the provisions of the bill, 75% of voters said they were either “strongly” or “somewhat” in favor of the bill, an increase of three points from the initial tally.

- Voters were most encouraged by the bill’s vigilance in handling the delicate process of terminally ill patients choosing to end their lives. 61% of Nevadans said they were more likely to support the measure after hearing it requires that patients have a terminal disease and be expected to die within six months before he or she can qualify to receive medication to hasten death. A similar 59% said they were more likely to support the measure after hearing that to request life-ending medication, the patient must make an oral request, a written request, and then another oral request 15 days later.

PPP surveyed 602 Nevada voters from April 28-30, 2017. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.0%. 80% of interviews for the poll were conducted over the phone with 20% interviewed over the internet to reach respondents who don’t have landline telephones.