

SUBCHAPTER III—MANAGEMENT OF  
BATTERIES CONTAINING MERCURY

**§ 14331. Purpose**

The purpose of this subchapter is to phase out the use of batteries containing mercury.

(Pub. L. 104-142, title II, §202, May 13, 1996, 110 Stat. 1336.)

**§ 14332. Limitations on sale of alkaline-manganese batteries containing mercury**

No person shall sell, offer for sale, or offer for promotional purposes any alkaline-manganese battery manufactured on or after May 13, 1996, with a mercury content that was intentionally introduced (as distinguished from mercury that may be incidentally present in other materials), except that the limitation on mercury content in alkaline-manganese button cells shall be 25 milligrams of mercury per button cell.

(Pub. L. 104-142, title II, §203, May 13, 1996, 110 Stat. 1336.)

**§ 14333. Limitations on sale of zinc-carbon batteries containing mercury**

No person shall sell, offer for sale, or offer for promotional purposes any zinc-carbon battery manufactured on or after May 13, 1996, that contains mercury that was intentionally introduced as described in section 14332 of this title.

(Pub. L. 104-142, title II, §204, May 13, 1996, 110 Stat. 1336.)

**§ 14334. Limitations on sale of button cell mercuric-oxide batteries**

No person shall sell, offer for sale, or offer for promotional purposes any button cell mercuric-oxide battery for use in the United States on or after May 13, 1996.

(Pub. L. 104-142, title II, §205, May 13, 1996, 110 Stat. 1336.)

**§ 14335. Limitations on sale of other mercuric-oxide batteries**

**(a) Prohibition**

On or after May 13, 1996, no person shall sell, offer for sale, or offer for promotional purposes a mercuric-oxide battery for use in the United States unless the battery manufacturer, or the importer of such a battery—

(1) identifies a collection site in the United States that has all required Federal, State, and local government approvals, to which persons may send used mercuric-oxide batteries for recycling or proper disposal;

(2) informs each of its purchasers of mercuric-oxide batteries of the collection site identified under paragraph (1); and

(3) informs each of its purchasers of mercuric-oxide batteries of a telephone number that the purchaser may call to get information about sending mercuric-oxide batteries for recycling or proper disposal.

**(b) Application of section**

This section does not apply to a sale or offer of a mercuric-oxide button cell battery.

(Pub. L. 104-142, title II, §206, May 13, 1996, 110 Stat. 1336.)

**§ 14336. New product or use**

On petition of a person that proposes a new use for a battery technology described in this subchapter or the use of a battery described in this subchapter in a new product, the Administrator may exempt from this subchapter the new use of the technology or the use of such a battery in the new product on the condition, if appropriate, that there exist reasonable safeguards to ensure that the resulting battery or product without an easily removable battery will not be disposed of in an incinerator, composting facility, or landfill (other than a facility regulated under subtitle C of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6921 et seq.)).

(Pub. L. 104-142, title II, §207, May 13, 1996, 110 Stat. 1336.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Solid Waste Disposal Act, referred to in text, is title II of Pub. L. 89-272, Oct. 20, 1965, 79 Stat. 997, as amended generally by Pub. L. 94-580, §2, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2795. Subtitle C of the Act is classified generally to subchapter III (§6921 et seq.) of chapter 82 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 6901 of this title and Tables.

**CHAPTER 138—ASSISTED SUICIDE FUNDING RESTRICTION**

Sec.

14401.	Findings and purpose.
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**§ 14401. Findings and purpose**

**(a) Findings**

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Federal Government provides financial support for the provision of and payment for health care services, as well as for advocacy activities to protect the rights of individuals.

(2) Assisted suicide, euthanasia, and mercy killing have been criminal offenses throughout the United States and, under current law, it would be unlawful to provide services in support of such illegal activities.

(3) Because of recent legal developments, it may become lawful in areas of the United States to furnish services in support of such activities.

(4) Congress is not providing Federal financial assistance in support of assisted suicide, euthanasia, and mercy killing and intends that Federal funds not be used to promote such activities.

**(b) Purpose**

It is the principal purpose of this chapter to continue current Federal policy by providing explicitly that Federal funds may not be used to pay for items and services (including assistance)

the purpose of which is to cause (or assist in causing) the suicide, euthanasia, or mercy killing of any individual.

(Pub. L. 105–12, § 2, Apr. 30, 1997, 111 Stat. 23.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 105–12, Apr. 30, 1997, 111 Stat. 23, known as the Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act of 1997. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out below and Tables.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 105–12, § 11, Apr. 30, 1997, 111 Stat. 29, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of this Act [see Short Title note below] (and the amendments made by this Act) take effect upon its enactment [Apr. 30, 1997] and apply, subject to subsection (b), to Federal payments made pursuant to obligations incurred after the date of the enactment of this Act for items and services provided on or after such date.

“(b) APPLICATION TO CONTRACTS.—Such provisions shall apply with respect to contracts entered into, renewed, or extended after the date of the enactment of this Act [Apr. 30, 1997] and shall also apply to a contract entered into before such date to the extent permitted under such contract.”

#### SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 105–12, § 1(a), Apr. 30, 1997, 111 Stat. 23, provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter, section 2380 of this title, section 1621x of Title 25, Indians, and section 1707 of Title 38, Veterans’ Benefits, amending sections 295, 701, 1395y, 1395cc, 1396a, 1396b, 1397d, 2996f, 6022, 6042, 6062, 6082, and 10805 of this title, section 8902 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, section 1073 of Title 10, Armed Forces, section 4005 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, section 2504 of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse, and section 794e of Title 29, Labor, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and section 295 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act of 1997.’”

#### CONSTRUCTION OF CONFORMING AMENDMENTS

Pub. L. 105–12, § 9(p), Apr. 30, 1997, 111 Stat. 29, provided that: “The fact that a law is not amended under this section [enacting section 2380 of this title, section 1621x of Title 25, Indians, and section 1707 of Title 38, Veterans’ Benefits, amending sections 701, 1395y, 1395cc, 1396a, 1396b, 1397d, 2996f, 6022, 6042, 6062, 6082, and 10805 of this title, section 8902 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, section 1073 of Title 10, Armed Forces, section 4005 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, section 2504 of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse, and section 794e of Title 29, Labor] shall not be construed as indicating that the provisions of this Act [see Short Title note above] do not apply to such a law.”

### § 14402. Restriction on use of Federal funds under health care programs

#### (a) Restriction on Federal funding of health care services

Subject to subsection (b) of this section, no funds appropriated by Congress for the purpose of paying (directly or indirectly) for the provision of health care services may be used—

- (1) to provide any health care item or service furnished for the purpose of causing, or for the purpose of assisting in causing, the death of any individual, such as by assisted suicide, euthanasia, or mercy killing;

- (2) to pay (directly, through payment of Federal financial participation or other matching payment, or otherwise) for such an item or service, including payment of expenses relating to such an item or service; or

- (3) to pay (in whole or in part) for health benefit coverage that includes any coverage of such an item or service or of any expenses relating to such an item or service.

#### (b) Construction and treatment of certain services

Nothing in subsection (a) of this section, or in any other provision of this chapter (or in any amendment made by this chapter), shall be construed to apply to or to affect any limitation relating to—

- (1) the withholding or withdrawing of medical treatment or medical care;
- (2) the withholding or withdrawing of nutrition or hydration;
- (3) abortion; or
- (4) the use of an item, good, benefit, or service furnished for the purpose of alleviating pain or discomfort, even if such use may increase the risk of death, so long as such item, good, benefit, or service is not also furnished for the purpose of causing, or the purpose of assisting in causing, death, for any reason.

#### (c) Limitation on Federal facilities and employees

Subject to subsection (b) of this section, with respect to health care items and services furnished—

- (1) by or in a health care facility owned or operated by the Federal government, or
- (2) by any physician or other individual employed by the Federal government to provide health care services within the scope of the physician’s or individual’s employment,

no such item or service may be furnished for the purpose of causing, or for the purpose of assisting in causing, the death of any individual, such as by assisted suicide, euthanasia, or mercy killing.

#### (d) List of programs to which restrictions apply

##### (1) Federal health care funding programs

Subsection (a) of this section applies to funds appropriated under or to carry out the following:

##### (A) Medicare program

Title XVIII of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.].

##### (B) Medicaid program

Title XIX of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.].

##### (C) Title XX social services block grant

Title XX of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1397 et seq.].

##### (D) Maternal and child health block grant program

Title V of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 701 et seq.].

##### (E) Public Health Service Act

The Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 201 et seq.].