

Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Submission No.: 80
Submitted by: Brenton Nicholls
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Position: I/We do not support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill
Comments in relation to: Eligibility criteria* ,The request and assessment process,Administration of the substance,Safeguards,Conscientious objection by either individuals or entities,Oversight and review
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I am writing to you with great concern for the elderly, sick and vulnerable in our state.

According to the Commonwealth Criminal Code, it is currently “illegal to use a phone, videoconference, email or other electronic communication to publish or distribute material that counsels or incites committing, or attempting to commit, suicide.”

Premier Palaszczuk has asked the Prime Minister to urgently amend this law. She wants doctors to be able to approve assisted suicide over the phone or in a video conference. They wouldn't have to meet with the patient or look them in the eyes while discussing the irreversible, intensely personal decision to take their own lives. Refer to section 14 (3) The person may make the request verbally or by gestures or other means of communication available to the person.

Is this quality medical care?

This is wrong. Queenslanders deserve better treatment, especially when it comes to deciding if they're going to take their own life. I, therefore, as a Queensland citizen, reject the Voluntary Assisted Dying 2021 Bill.

Sincerely,
Brenton Nicholls