

Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Submission No.: 109
Submitted by: Malcolm Parker
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Position: I/We support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill
Comments in relation to: Other
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

Passage of the Bill will ensure that eligible Queenslanders will have options at the end of their lives that remove the cruel insistence by some forces in society that suffering must be endured in the name of values that these eligible Queenslanders do not hold. This would be to enlarge the range of freedoms enjoyed by Queenslanders, subject to the fair and reasonable restrictions and safeguards included in the Bill.

The Bill is the result of continuing work by supporters of voluntary assisted dying (VAD) over a long period, that has also been characterised by consistent support for the improvement in and equitable availability of palliative care. The process whereby the Bill is now being considered by the committee, on reference from the Parliament, is an exemplary illustration of democracy at work, following the initial health committee inquiry and the Queensland Law Reform Commission drafting process. This passage of the Bill would represent the will of the significant majority of citizens, while doing nothing to prevent those who do not support VAD from negotiating the end of life on the basis of their values.