
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 7 June 2021 9:27 PM
To: Health and Environment Committee
Subject: Anyone who talks someone out of assisted suicide could face up to 7 years in jail?
Health workers free to suggest suicide? REALLY?

Re: Anyone who talks someone out of assisted suicide could face up to 7 years in jail? Health workers free to suggest suicide? REALLY?

Dear Health and Environment Committee,

There are several appalling and distressing components in this bill as currently formulated. There is also seems to be an apparent element of callous indifference regarding the value of human life and dignity. Once again the sensitivities and convictions of Christians and other like minded and caring voters is disregarded in the inclusion of limitations such as the following: Faith-based hospitals and nursing homes cannot refuse to have their patients euthanised! It is appalling that this bill would allow health workers to initiate euthanasia discussions with a patient in a situation where it is possible there is no one present who can properly argue the case for retention of life and care.

Refer to Section 7(2) (1), a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner may [initiate a discussion about euthanasia] mentioned in subsection (1)(a) or (b) if, at the same time, the practitioner also informs the person about (a) the treatment options available to the person and the likely outcomes of that treatment; and (b) the palliative care and treatment options available to the person and the likely outcomes of that care and treatment.

Doctors and nurses are trusted, authority figures in a vulnerable person's life. For them to present the option of assisted suicide is utterly wrong – even if they also include other options – because the patient may be unduly persuaded to kill themselves.

The recent Aged Care Royal Commission revealed a crisis in aged care. In the many cases where there are no real palliative care options due to chronic underfunding in Queensland, this Bill adds pressure to vulnerable patients to prematurely end their lives.

I strongly oppose the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill and I'm earnestly requesting that as my representative you add your voice to those who choose who reject it.

Sincerely,
kevin Parsonson

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