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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 14 June 2021 6:28 PM  
**To:** Health and Environment Committee  
**Subject:** Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 - Funding cuts reveal Government's priorities

Re: Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 - Funding cuts reveal Government's priorities

Dear Health and Environment Committee,

I am hoping that you have received many emails expressing concern over the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021. One of my biggest concerns with the bill is that it will be impossible to scrutinise its effects if death certificates do not correctly identify the cause of death.

It also concerns me deeply that health care providers are able to initiate conversations about voluntary assisted dying with patients provided that other options are also presented. One of the reasons that this concerns me is that my still living father was told two decades ago that he had six months to live and seriously considered ending his own life. The doctor called three months later to say he had made a mistake. Under the proposed legislation, he could have immediately begun the process of assisted dying and the doctor's error would have been a fatal one with no consequences.

Each and every human life is precious and the way in which we treat those nearing the end of their lives is indicative of the value we accord to human beings. Please do not allow such a bill to pass. Instead, we need greater investment in palliative care to at least meet WHO standards and show that we truly value each person.

Sincerely,  
Talia Allen

[REDACTED]

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