

Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Submission No.: 293
Submitted by: Paul Harrigan
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Position: I/We support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill
Comments in relation to: Eligibility criteria*
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

"The item: ""causing suffering that the person considers to be intolerable"" should be clarified.

Who decides if the suffering is intolerable?

Obviously, the only person who knows if their suffering is intolerable is the ""patient"" themselves. For example, if a patient is told that their condition is terminal, this in itself could cause ""intolerable suffering"" of a mental nature rather than a physical nature.

In my opinion, it should be for the patient to decide and the ""intolerable suffering"" should include both physical and mental and the definition should be included in the Bill.