From:

Sent: Monday, 7 June 2021 4:53 PM

To: Health and Environment Committee **Subject:** How can this be allowed?

Re: How can this be allowed?

Dear Health and Environment Committee,

Dear Mr Smith,

I'm writing to voice my serious concerns about the Voluntary Assisted Dying 2021 Bill. There are many aspects to this Bill which are of grave concern. You only get one life and life itself should be recognised as precious. I sense that as a society, we are no longer valuing life, but instead opting for taking life or becoming desensitised to the precious gift we have all been given.

Time, love and care, especially palliative care should be what is given to those whom this Bill is claiming should be given a death penalty. I believe that is what it is. A person is tried and jailed for murder for taking a life in this country, or homicide if 'somewhat accidental' and yet we want to deliberately take people's lives who we consider no longer worthy of existing.

Palliative care and greater funding should be considered and put into place to ensure that love and care is given to those who may require it.

There are too many 'loopholes' and too many lack of protections for people who do not agree with euthanasia. Animals get euthanised, not human beings and I would like to point out that as those who are supposed to be representing the masses and making 'good' decisions and 'protecting all peoples', this Bill does nothing of the sort. It is dangerous and 'unloving' and 'uncaring'.

I would also like to make reference to the fact that a death certificate is a legal and historic record. Despite this, according to the Bill, death certificates must be falsified to say the person died from the underlying illness or disease – not from assisted suicide. This is DECEIT and a LIE. Section 81(3) (3) The medical practitioner (b) must not include any reference to voluntary assisted dying in the cause of death certificate for the person.

How can this be allowed?

A further concern is that Section 146 makes it an offence to obtain information about anyone who accesses assisted suicide. How will the government keep track of how many people are ending their lives in this way? Is this a 'cover up' to not allow truth to be tabulated?

These issues alone demonstrate that the Bill is unacceptable. I urge you to reject the Voluntary Assisted Dying 2021 Bill.

Sincerely Linda and Andrew Fulton

Sincerely,

Mrs Linda E Fulton

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