

Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Submission No.: 419

Submitted by: [REDACTED]

Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name

Position: I/We do not support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill

Comments in relation to: Conscientious objection by either individuals or entities

Attachments: See attachment

Submitter Comments:

It is easier and far cheaper to terminate a life that relatives, doctors and nurses deem not worthwhile, than to meet one's responsibilities of care!

("Facts you may not know about palliative care')

In 2013 the Health Department's own reports admitted Queensland palliative care services were **already stretched**, with referrals to services increasing annually by 20 per cent while funding was only expected to increase by an annual 12.9 percent. More recent reports reveal only a 5.6% funding increase between 2013/4 and 2019. **(Solution: Fix the problem!)**

Queensland **ranks low** among the other states for the number of publicly funded in-patient palliative care beds per capita, and though efforts are being made in digital/ telehealth to connect specialist palliative care to regional and remote areas, face to face access is significantly limited. For example, the town of Mackay with a population of 125,000 has no specialist palliative care physician. **(Solution: Shame, shame on you! Eat well and sleep soundly. Kill and more money in State coffers!)**

105 of Australia's 148 palliative medicine specialists (70% of the profession) wrote an open letter in 2017 to Victorian and NSW MPs, saying that euthanasia advocates "actively and deliberately undermine" public confidence in palliative care. **(Deception began since the days of the 'talking snakes'.)**

Current Australian data indicates that no more than 2 in every 100 Palliative Care patients would be in moderate or severe pain at the end of life. In these unusual cases where when all other methods of palliation for pain and other symptoms is inadequate, and if the patient agrees, palliative sedation therapy is available to provide adequate relief of suffering. **(Way to go if you have any humanity and courage. But waste of time?)**