

Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Submission No.: 439

Submitted by: Bernadette Davies

Publication: Making the submission and your name public

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

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

Attachments: See attachment

Submitter Comments:

Mrs Bernadette Davies
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Opposition to the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Every Queenslanders has a right to high quality palliative care and, until it is available to all Queenslanders, there is no 'choice', but there will be coercion. Elder abuse, including 'inheritance impatience', is real and underreported. Euthanasia laws allow families to coerce their elders to consider themselves burdens, pushing them to request assisted suicide, even when not dying or in pain. People with disabilities are also vulnerable to pressure, neglect, and abuse, regardless of legislative safeguards.

Money needs to be spent on increasing palliative care services, especially in rural and remote areas and among indigenous communities. Any euthanasia legislation should provide institutional conscientious objector provisions to Aged Care & Health Providers or risk them withdrawing from providing end of life care. They are the only operators of very few aged & palliative care services in rural and regional QLD.