Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Submission No.: 462

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Comments in relation to: Eligibility criteria* ,The request and assessment

process

Attachments: See attachment

Submitter Comments:

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VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING BILL

I very much hope that the Queensland Government will pass the bill legalizing Dying with Dignity. If passed, this legislation will save much suffering and can only be for the good. The alarmist viewpoints that have been espoused by opponents to the Bill have proved to be negative where this is in practice in various other countries.

I cannot understand why it is so difficult to get legislation passed on this subject. Statistics constantly show that 80% of the population support people being able to end their life in an easy and dignified way when terrible pain and suffering are too much to bear. It will be voluntary so that those who wish to end their lives this way will be able to do so, whilst those who believe that God wants them to suffer to the bitter end will follow that direction.

The LNP have indicated that they are opposed to this legislation and prefer instead to spend more money on palliative care. I totally disagree with this thinking. Whilst palliative care might help with a physical pain by heavy dosages of drugs, nothing can help with the mental trauma. It would also be extremely expensive and save maybe only a few weeks or months of life. Our health service is already facing extreme pressures and the money would be better spent in our hospitals caring for younger generations, not ones who will be permanently bedridden and whose quality of life has irrevocably gone.

It is well documented that many people take their own life by suicide - when they are in terrible pain. Surely, it would be so much more civilized if they could have an injection or potion that would end their suffering in a matter of seconds.

Politicians need to listen to what the public want. Research clearly shows that this legislation is required to enable an easy death when life has become too painful.

Accordingly, I want Voluntary Assisted Dying to become law without unnecessary delay.

Jeanette Scott