
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 16 June 2021 9:42 AM
To: Health and Environment Committee
Subject: Submission to the Health Committee

Re: Submission to the Health Committee

Dear Health Committee Members,

I am writing to plead with you to not go through with the Euthanasia bill. There are so many issues with it. Euthanasia is intentionally killing someone, it is assisted suicide, intentional killing, and it will lead to wrongful deaths. There will be more deaths in Queensland every year as a result.

Here are just some of the issues with the bill-

There will be no requirement for a patient to be seen by a palliative care specialist.

The bill requires no mental health checks. There is no requirement for those requesting assisted suicide to be assessed by a mental health expert like a psychiatrist, yet mental anguish and depression is often one of the main drivers for requests for euthanasia, as data from other jurisdictions shows.

The deceptive language in the Bill - even the term "voluntary assisted dying" makes it sound like people are accessing palliative care when in fact it is euthanasia or assisted suicide.

A doctor or a nurse can raise the idea of assisted suicide in the context of discussing other end-of-life options. This is incredibly dangerous, as a patient would no doubt be feeling unwell, distressed by their prognosis and very vulnerable.

The two approving doctors can be junior General Practitioners with little or no specialised training in end-of-life management. (Palliative care specialists train for at least four years full-time after graduating with a medical degree.)

This bill is dangerous and wrong. Please do the right thing

Sincerely,
Warren McKenzie

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