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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 June 2021 8:27 AM  
**To:** Health and Environment Committee  
**Subject:** I oppose the "Voluntary Assisted Dying" Bill

Re: I oppose the "Voluntary Assisted Dying" Bill

Dear Health Committee Members,

As a future senior citizen of this country and state, I am very concerned about the Premier's VAD bill.

This bill requires NO mental health checks for vulnerable/sick people which is something surely that should be checked before allowing someone to make such a big and permanent decision.

I am very concerned about the suggestion that a health care professional can introduce VAD to the discussion with a vulnerable/sick person. The focus in this situation shifts from helping people get better to killing them. That is NOT health care!

The Premier's suggested seven-year jail term for anyone who tries to dissuade a person from undertaking VAD is absolutely diabolical. A vulnerable/sick person should be surrounded by people who can speak freely to them about their situation, not gagged by the threat of jail time.

My final objection to this abhorrent bill is for health care professionals. It is disgraceful to force health care professionals to refer people to VAD/euthanasia providers, thereby violating their conscience and deeply-held beliefs about life by forcing them to become involved in the sickening journey towards VAD/euthanasia. None of our hard-working health care professionals (who sign up to their jobs to help people recover from disease/illness/injury, not kill patients!) should have to become part of the 'chain' moving a patient towards an outcome that violates their conscience.

Palliative Care in our state is woefully underfunded and this is why Queenslanders are dying in pain. There is a more compassionate and reasonable solution to the problem of suffering Queenslanders and it is not VAD/euthanasia. The Nurses' Professional Association of Queensland and AMA agree with this. Please consider their views on this important issue as well.

Sincerely,  
Julie Lawson