
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 28 June 2021 2:35 PM
To: Health and Environment Committee
Subject: euthanasia bill

SUBMISSION TO THE QUEENSLAND HEALTH COMMITTEE
AGAINST LABORS "VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING BILL"

Labour's euthanasia bill is a very dangerous bill. I will explain why.

By this I mean doctors could give a wrong prognosis (eg) patient may die in 12 months. How many times has this time line been wrong and patient has been in remission or is completely cured of cancer by natural means. Naturally when a patient hears this devastating news from a doctor he/she is alarmed. The doctor would then inform the patient of the assisted dying act and encourage them to go this way where there will be no pain (an easy way out).

Doctors with a conscientious objection to euthanasia or assisted suicide would be forced to refer patients for it and therefore be complicit in the outcome of a patient killed.

Health institutions who oppose euthanasia i.e. Catholic Health Australia and Uniting Care as well as many others) would be compelled to refer patients who qualify for euthanasia on request.

This is encouraging suicide whether assisted or not when at the same time Government is trying to prevent suicide. Does this make sense? This would also increase the number of suicides as always happens when (if this bill is passed) young and at any age it would be seen as the only way out of their endless anguish. It would be accepted as the easy and only way out.

There is no requirement to be seen by a specialist in the area of patients suffering.

Another thing that is reprehensible is the discouragement of palliative care.

Palliative care has very little funding. It has a serious care deficit of about \$275 million per year. The Qld government has only promised an additional \$171 million over six years.

Every Queenslanders has a fundamental right to high quality palliative care should they need it. And the training of many more palliative care doctors and nurses.

Also another thing that is alarming is the elderly and frail in aged care facilities. They would feel pressured from family members to access assisted dying as they would feel a burden on their family and. family may be eager to access any inheritance. This would be elder abuse which I thought the government was trying to stop.

There are many aspects to this bill that are very alarming. These are only a few.

Yours sincerely

(Mrs) Gail Osmak

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