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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 June 2021 6:57 AM  
**To:** Health and Environment Committee  
**Subject:** Support for Voluntary Assisted Dying

**\*Please note that my previous submission did not contain my contact details. Please replace with this version, thank you.**

To: The Chair and members of the Health and Environment Committee, Parliament of Queensland.

Date: 28.6.21

From: Dr Karen Struthers, former MP for Algester. [REDACTED]

Dear Committee Members

I commend the Queensland Parliament for progressing the consideration of Voluntary Assisted Dying Laws.

- I urge you to support the draft VAD Bill in its current form. VAD laws offer each of us the opportunity to make end of life decisions based on choice, dignity and humanity.
- I ask that you ensure that doctors are able to use electronic means to communicate with each other and their patients regarding VAD. Queenslanders who live in remote and regional areas must also have the option to access to VAD.
- I ask that people who own their own home in a retirement village must be able to access VAD in their own home.

I advocated for VAD as a former member of Parliament. I was petitioned and urged by members of an Anglican Church in my electorate. They were the most unlikely supporters given their Christian faith. They said they 'nursed' their husbands through prolonged ill health and suffering. They and their husbands did not want others to suffer like them. In honour of my former constituents, I again urge the Queensland Parliament to support an effective, safe VAD regime in Queensland.

Sincerely, Karen Struthers.