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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 June 2021 7:24 PM  
**To:** Health and Environment Committee  
**Subject:** Please listen

To whom it may concern,

I write in support of Voluntary assisted dying.

I support the current draft but make amends to allow please doctors to use electronic means to communicate with each other and their patients regarding the right to voluntary assisted dying so that Queenslanders who live in remote areas have access to this right.

People who own their own home in a retirement village must be able to access voluntary assisted dying in their own homes. This has been such a long-awaited bill to allow people the right to die with dignity, respect and integrity.

Please, please have an open mind. Assisted dying is more than the medication used, it's more than being diagnosed with a terminal illness, it's about people like myself who have a progressive illness.

A disease that slowly erodes my lung function, that results in big holes in my lungs and the inability to breathe & talk, eat and walk, even on oxygen.

My brother died on the 6th December 2019 after a 10-year battle. He had 14% lung function when he died from an air borne virus that could not be treated, his body was exhausted and could no longer fight the continuous battle of life with this disease. He was 61 years old. A very proud man, who lived his last 6 years wanting to die. It was beyond describable heartache watching him fight this battle, well knowing this is the path I follow.

He was my older brother by 11 months, we were diagnosed with Alpha 1 Antitrypsin deficiency 3 years ago after a COPD diagnosis many years before. My younger brother was diagnosed 2 years ago. 3 out of 6 siblings have been diagnosed with COPD Alpha 1.

As a nurse who worked for many years with the NSW Dust & Disease board caring for patients with mesothelioma (among many illnesses) who wanted to die at home, I can fully grasp the benefit & personal right to have a choice in when I want to die.

This is based on the current lifestyle I live and the quality of my life. I want to watch my grandbabies grow up more than anything, I want to ensure my children are ready for my goodbye but most of all, as a mother of a beautiful special needs child who is 43yrs old with complex medical & support needs I NEED to be here for as long as I can.

So, in saying all that I want you to see that I have already started to think things through. I'm not looking at making a rash decision to end my life, I still have commitments that I strive to achieve.

I still work diligently to keep myself as well as possible BUT I need your help.

I need to know that when I'm ready to leave this World that I will have the right to determine that time.

In the past 23 years my children have watched 6 people they loved and adored die.

I DO NOT want my children to have the same memories I now have, of my proud independent brother reduced to a shell of a man.

The depression from the disease makes living everyday a struggle, the roller coaster of emotions is beyond cruel.

PLEASE, allow me the right to die with dignity, with grace and without being a burden to those I love.

It is with thanks for your support and consideration.

Kind regards,

Glenda Miller