

**Health and Environment Committee**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 June 2021 7:05 PM  
**To:** Health and Environment Committee  
**Subject:** I oppose the "Voluntary Assisted Dying" Bill

**Categories:** Submission

Re: I oppose the "Voluntary Assisted Dying" Bill

Dear Health Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021. My concerns on some of the content of the Bill are as follows:

1. There is no requirement for the two approving doctors to have qualifications or experience in dealing with patients who seek medical assistance for end of life services.
2. There are no mental health checks required. As VAD would be something very drastic for patients to consider how do you intend to get the right result for those with mental health issues without a professional psychiatrist examining them.
3. Doctors who have a conscientious objection to VAD will be required to refer the patient to a complying doctor making the first doctor complicit in the task of killing a patient. Similarly Hospitals or Aged Care facilities that object to the killing of patients on their premises may be fined if they do not comply. This is discrimination of the highest order.
4. If you try to dissuade a person from ending their life by VAD you could face a prison term. This is preposterous and hardly something that should be in legislation of a supposed free country.
5. To have a doctor train to qualify for some ten years with the only objective to save lives and administer compassionate care, then ask him/her to administer poison that will kill the patient is ethically wrong. The fact that the Queensland Medical Association, The Australian Medical Association and 107 other Medical Associations around the world totally reject euthanasia and VAD is an overwhelming indication that these actions are not the way to go. The Queensland Government has been taking Health advice from the medical experts on the Co-vid 19 virus one hundred percent since its arrival in Australia. The Health advice on VAD is that it should not be made legal and this Bill should be removed. The Government should be consistent and take this advice.

Jeffrey Eacersall

Sincerely,  
jeffrey Eacersall

[REDACTED]