

**Health and Environment Committee**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 30 June 2021 5:06 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,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed "Voluntary Assisted Dying" bill.

I am concerned that there is NO requirement for a person to be seen by a Palliative Care Specialist, or for them to be offered Palliative Care services.

There is not even the requirement for the patient to be examined by a specialist in the area of their illness, at any stage of their illness. This leaves the potential for someone to be misinformed about their circumstances and treatment options.

The continued, woeful underfunding of Palliative Care leaves me to conclude that the push for this bill is NOT about care, but rather about cost. Palliative Care MUST be properly resourced, and available from diagnosis until end of life, as stated by World Health Organisation. Many regional areas of Qld have extremely limited access to Palliative Care, or even NO access. Palliative Care provides quality of life to people right through their terminal diagnosis.

Surely the need for Palliative Care funding must be rectified BEFORE any legislation to facilitate people to die early. PALLIATIVE CARE DOES ALLOW a person to die WITH dignity, valued by family, friends and our community.

Sincerely,  
Jillian Jennings

[REDACTED]