

Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Submission No.: 1073
Submitted by: David Grace
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Position: I/We do not support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill
Comments in relation to: Safeguards, Conscientious objection by either individuals or entities
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I oppose the Bill because it does not:

1. provide adequate safeguards to ensure that a person makes the request of his or her own volition, being properly informed as to the real nature and effect of the taking of such step but rather in circumstances where others may seek to influence the outcome.
2. allow the publication of the truth in that a medical practitioner signing a death certificate must state that the cause of death was the disease, illness or medical condition from which the person suffered, rather than from the truth that is due to the administration of drugs intended to bring about the person's death
3. require the person's own doctor, one who has an established doctor / patient relationship to be consulted and so, those expressing views may do so without knowing the patient's personality, moods or belief systems or previously discussed wishes and without consulting his or her medical history.
4. afford protection of an institution whose belief system does not permit the participation in the VAD process from refusing a person who does not wish to carry out the process in the institution's own facility if the patient is a patient or resident there.
5. provide for adequate funding for proper palliative care for those who suffer from an illness, disease or condition and who do not wish to procure the advancement of their death through other than natural causes.
6. provide for the support for our State's sick or elderly in a way that respects their human dignity and right to effective medical treatment in their end of dealing with the effects of their condition.