

Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Submission No.: 1126
Submitted by: Denise Sheehan
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Position: I/We do not support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill
Comments in relation to: The request and assessment process, Conscientious objection by either individuals or entities
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I do not support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2021 Bill Draft for the following reasons:-

- A law specifically designed to permit killing of a person, or giving assistance to a person to end life, contradicts natural law.
- Human dignity is inherent to all people. As a person approaches end of life, our society has a social and moral responsibility to provide support and comfort with good palliative care. We can dispel any fear of worthlessness the dying person may experience and protect that person's dignity by allowing nature to take its course.

If the Bill goes to debate, I urge some amendments.

- Part 1 8 Falsifies the cause of death.
- Part 2 10 Eligibility(1) (a) (ii) 12 months should be reduced to 6 months or less
- Part 3 Division 1 medical practitioner - does not stipulate a Specialist doctor.
- Part 3 Division 1 16 (4) A medical practitioner who has a conscientious objection to voluntary assisted dying is required to provide information pertaining to the services to the applicant. This does not allow the medical practitioner a conscientious objection and should be omitted from the Draft.