

**Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021**

**Submission No.:** 1128  
**Submitted by:** Amanda Henry  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Position:** I/We support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill  
**Comments in relation to:** Eligibility criteria\*  
**Attachments:** No attachment

**Submitter Comments:**

I fully support Voluntary Assisted Dying and believe Australia has been very slow to address this need compared to various other more progressive countries.

I cared for my beautiful mother through her horrendous Journey with Alzheimers Disease. My Mum was a lifelong supporter of voluntary assisted dying but was not able to access this in Australia. She begged me so many times to help her die but understood I would go to gaol if I helped her. In the end Mum took matters into her own hands and refused food, she told me she would starve herself all along and this is what she was forced to do. Starvation is not a pleasant way to die and it was awful to witness. I feel I let Mum down as I couldn't help her to die a good death, a dignified death which I believe so strongly in. The memory of Mum withering away from starvation will stay with me for the rest of my life.

I compare the beautiful, kind and peaceful deaths of my beloved dogs more recently. When nothing could be done to cure them and before they started to suffer, my Vet euthanised them at my home. This is how we treat our pets but as humans we are forced to remain alive through intolerable suffering.

The time has come Australia, the majority of Australians support Voluntary Assisted Dying so why on earth do we not already have it in each and every state? Make it a priority!