

We need you to help us ensure the euthanasia Bill is defeated.

We need your action – **NOW**.

The State government has introduced draft legislation for assisted suicide in Queensland.

We need you to help us ensure the Bill is defeated. We need your action - NOW.

It is imperative all sectors of the community who have not been heard – **ARE HEARD**. Namely; first nations people, disabled people, palliative care providers, mental health providers, multicultural and multifaith groups.

'Euthanasia' and 'assisted suicide' are not only contrary to society's foundational law 'thou shalt not kill' but also the principle of 'do no harm' which has governed the medical profession forever.

We support the many health professionals who say we should do all we can to care and protect Queenslanders rather than assist them to die.

Many members of parliament (MPs) say the Bill provides 'compassion' and 'choice'. There is NO 'choice' until palliative care is available to ALL Oueenslanders.

Most Queenslanders don't understand what 'palliative care' is – a care which commences at the point of terminal diagnosis and continues to ensure a person lives a pain free and meaningful life until the natural end of their life.

We need to adopt a 'palliative care' first approach – through a commitment to properly funding an area of medicine that is both proven and improving all the time.

It's extraordinary the Government is prepared to spend so much time, energy and resources on legislation that affects the few rather than the many.

Only a tiny percentage of Queenslanders may access Euthanasia, but 100% of Queenslanders will require palliative care – and the cost of proper palliative care is small compared to the colossal State health budget.

Even the Queensland Law Reform Commission's recommendations to the Government on legislation urges;

"Any scheme for voluntary assisted dying should complement, not detract from, the provision of high quality and accessible palliative care."

QLD State Health budget - \$23 BILLION

Current committed palliative care funding - \$138 Million per annum

Additional palliative care funding required - **\$275 Million** per annum

Funding required per annum to provide palliative care to ALL Queenslanders - \$385 Million per annum

The cost of 3 klm of Motorway upgrade - \$400 Million

(https://statements.qld.gov.au/statements/91971)

HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Arrange a meeting with YOUR local Member of Parliament
To find who they are

CLICK HERE
OR TYPE IN
https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/members/current/list

2. Please also email your views to YOUR local Member of Parliament

CLICK HERE
OR TYPE IN
https://www.noeuthanasia.org.au/petition_2105_ocp_qld

- **3.** Familiarise yourself with the various points in this pack use them in your conversations or emails with the local MP
- 4. In your local community identify, engage and encourage community groups - disability, mental health, indigenous, multi faith and multi cultural - TO DO THE SAME.
- **5.** Provide them with the information and resources provided in this pack.

QUESTIONS FOR MPS

- 1. Ask whether they support or oppose VAD, and how they intend to vote
- 2. Ask whether they will support an annual increase in funding to palliative care services
- 3. Ask if they know 107 of 109 World Medical Associations oppose euthanasia as it isn't a medical treatment
- Ask how introducing VAD fits with government targets to halve suicide rates by 2026
- Ask is VAD compatible with the priority of protecting the elderly or vulnerable established under COVID19
- 6. Ask why health and aged care providers opposed to VAD will be forced to partake in it on their premises
- Ask if it is fair to deliver lethal VAD substances to regional and remote areas which have no palliative care
- 8. Ask if they know providing pallative care to all Queenslanders costs less than 3 kilometres of motorway upgrade.

Please stand with the Medical experts and many other sectors of the community (multicultural groups, First Nations people, the disability sector and elder abuse prevention advocates) in opposing this legislation.

Dying with dignity already exists - it lies in being able to access to high quality palliative care statewide.