

Ms Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA

Chair of Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000



Dear Ms Sanderson,

I am writing in support of any laws that will allow voluntary euthanasia or assisted dying in WA.

Any such assistance now is only available at the very end of life and only when someone has been in great and unrelieved pain for some time and at a doctor's discretion, who would then be breaking the law as it stands. Therefor the only other options are, refuse treatment, starvation or suicide if the person is able to do that. There is, and should be, palliative care for those who prefer that option

There should be reliable, legal and peaceful methods available for the older generation who wish to avoid a decline in their health and dignity. This is already in place in other countries e.g. Belgium and Holland and it is working well.

It should legally be the right of everyone to determine how and when their life will end if they become terminally ill and are suffering unbearably without any prospect of improvement and they do not wish to have to depend on others for total care. To this end it should be legal for a doctor to assist them.

Advanced Health Directives, Enduring Power of Attorney and Enduring Power of Guardianship should be legally binding on all Medical Personnel if signed when the person was mentally capable of making the decisions.

The ultimate outcome of your deliberation will hopefully allow anyone who is terminally ill or who has a chronic, painful and severely debilitating condition to have a peaceful death at the time of their choice and surrounded by their loved ones.

Thank you for considering my submission. I am not available for a personal appearance before your committee.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret M^cTaylor
