

## Admin, LACO

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**Subject:** FW: Submission to Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices

**From:** Michael Walker

**Sent:** Thursday, 19 October 2017 5:25 PM

**To:** Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices <[eolcc@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:eolcc@parliament.wa.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Submission to Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices

My name is Michael Walker. I am an Australian citizen , living at  
. I am divorced and have no dependents.

I make this submission in hope that the committee will recommend ways of broadening the lawful choices available to adult Western Australians with distressing and incurable medical conditions, who may wish to end their own lives. The submission is only on my own behalf.

Ten years ago I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, which is one such condition. Since then I have consulted several neurologists and other medical specialists, and have spent periods in hospital after falls and infections. I have been unable to work since 2009, and my condition has worsened progressively since then.

At present I suffer continually from pain, fatigue and disability (I am confined to a wheelchair). I believe that these symptoms will continue to worsen until my death several years hence -- possibly in extreme circumstances, such as asphyxiation.

I have accepted this prospect, and have no immediate intention of ending my life (nor at present do I have the means of doing so reliably). However, having considered the issue carefully I ask the committee to:

**RECOMMEND REMOVING LEGAL SANCTIONS ON THE SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS SUCH AS NEMBUTAL TO AVOID A PROLONGED, TRAUMATIC DEATH, WHERE AN ADULT IS SUFFERING FROM A TERMINAL ILLNESS AND IS ASSESSED TO HAVE A LIFE EXPECTANCY OF NO MORE THAN 3 YEARS.**

Yours faithfully,  
Michael Walker