Attention Secretary,
Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices in ACT,
Legislative Assembly for the ACT,
GPO Box 1020 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to support any legislation which decriminalises the act of assisting someone to end their life when they have clearly and legally stated that they wish to die for medical or mental reasons.

I know that a person does not choose to be born but that person should, in my opinion, have the right to legally end their life on this earth and if need be, be assisted to achieve it.

My mother-in-law was kept alive in care for several years against her wish. She tried to escape from this situation and was returned to it. Her family were all hoping that she might die naturally to end her suffering. Clearly it would have been a better outcome if she had been allowed to be helped to terminate her uncomfortable life.

My grandmother was very ill with incurable consumption and her husband, a doctor, helped her to end her life by increasing the doses of morphine until she passed. Her family were all glad that he had helped her to end a painful life.

Palliative care can nowadays ease patients suffering but it cannot always ease the mental distress which many people in care seem to experience.

I sincerely hope that legislation to enable these changes to be effected can be drafted and passed.

Yours sincerely,

R.B. Thompson