



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON END OF LIFE CHOICES IN THE ACT

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Submission Cover Sheet

End of Life Choices in the ACT

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From: Timothy Pascoe
To: [LA Committee - EOLC](#)
Subject: Voluntary Assisted Dying
Date: Thursday, 4 January 2018 1:59:14 PM

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am not a resident of the ACT but visit from time to time, so hope it might be acceptable for me to offer an opinion on the matter of VAD.

As someone approaching 80, I'm well aware I need to consider issues relating to the end of life – and, in particular, the end of my own.

I would like to have the option, if in terminal decline and in serious pain, to have the option for a doctor-assisted exit. I don't necessarily expect to need this but would like it to be a choice, just in case.

We are all living longer and, although palliative care and other hospital assistance can be helpful, this is not always sufficient.

I'm also aware that a major part of the medical costs we each incur arise in the final part of our life. Since my children and grandchildren (and many other younger people – perhaps including members of your committee) will be amongst the tax payers helping to pay for this, I doubly would like doctor-assisted help to die rather than live on in pain and, for no good reason, racking up costs for others to help pay.

With appropriately defined conditions to avoid misuse, I believe VAD is a humane and sensible policy in a civilized society.

With best wishes,

Timothy

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