



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON END OF LIFE CHOICES IN THE ACT

Ms Bec Cody MLA (Chair), Mrs Vicki Dunne MLA (Deputy Chair), Ms Tara Cheyne MLA,
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Submission Cover Sheet

End of Life Choices in the ACT

Submission Number: 253

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From: Brian Medway
To: [LA Committee - EOLC](#)
Subject: I am an ACT resident, here is my submission to the inquiry
Date: Friday, 16 March 2018 8:38:08 AM

Re: I am an ACT resident, here is my submission to the inquiry

Dear Secretary,

I have been involved with numbers of people who have been cared for through the current hospice and other palliative care programs in the ACT. All of them have been appropriate, effective, loving and gave dignity to the patient and provided support for their families. This is the form of care that should be given more funding and more resources. I have also watched some of the European experiences where euthanasia laws have been in force for some time. There is enough evidence to conclude that there will always be far too much opportunity for the system to be abused in favour of relatives rather than providing love for the vulnerable patients. My wife worked in Canberra as a community aged care manager for many years. During that time we saw so many examples of horrible behaviour from uncaring (and inheritance seeking) relatives to make me feel that systems like those that have already happened will only provide another way for vulnerable people to be abused. I realise that there are people who will have legitimate grounds for deciding to terminate their own lives, but I am convinced that to pass legislation to give them the opportunity to do so will create too much opportunity for others to be abused. I

Sincerely,
Brian Medway

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