



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,
Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA, Ms Caroline Le Couteur MLA.

Submission Cover Sheet

End of Life Choices in the ACT

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From: Dione Smith
To: [LA Committee - EOLC](#)
Subject: Submission on end of life choices
Date: Friday, 23 March 2018 5:11:58 PM

Dear Select Committee on End of Life Choices in the ACT

1. Should a debilitating, painful, and allegedly terminal illness afflict me in later years, I would want to be able to receive the best palliative care in a facility such as Clare Holland House. As a single person, I feel particularly vulnerable about ageing alone, should ill health overcome me. I am concerned that best practice palliative care capable of meeting the population need in the ACT is not sufficiently funded, especially as regards our growing and ageing population.
2. I do not wish to see voluntary assisted dying legalised in the ACT; neither do I want to see anybody (needlessly) suffering pain, hence a call for sustained adequate funding for best practice palliative care that meets the present and future population needs of the ACT.
3. If voluntary assisted dying is legalised, it would contradict and undermine the valiant community (e.g. Lifeline) and individual efforts continually invested in trying to reach out to all others in a dark place, to give them hope for a better future.

Yours sincerely

Ms Dione Smith

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