



Senator The Hon. Kim Carr Senator for Victoria



Joy Burch MLA
Speaker
Legislative Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory
GPO Box 1020
ACT 2601

18 October 2021

Dear Madam Speaker,

Thank you for your correspondence dated 14 October 2021 bringing to my attention the resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory on 8 October, which specifically called on the assembly to bring to the attention of Senators:

- the disrespect the Commonwealth Government has shown to ACT and Northern Territory citizens by taking almost seven months to respond to ACT and Northern Territory Government correspondence from 3 March 2021 regarding the need to rectify the concerning persistence of the ban on the ACT's and Northern Territory's ability to legislate on the issue of voluntary assisted dying;
- the response received from Commonwealth Attorney-General, Senator the Hon. Michaelia Cash, dated 1 October 2021 which:
 - advised that the Commonwealth Government does not have any current plans to introduce legislation to repeal the Euthanasia Laws Act 1997 (Cth); and
 - failed to address the human rights considerations explicitly raised in the correspondence from the ACT and Northern Territory Governments; and
- denounce the correspondence received from the Commonwealth Attorney-General in October 2021 regarding Territory rights;

I canvassed these and many other issues which impact the Australian Capital Territory in my minority report of the Senate's Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee inquiry into the Ensuring Northern Territory Rights Bill 2021, which was tabled on 6 October 2021.

For the assistance of members of the Legislative Assembly I enclose of copy of the committees' full report.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K Carr', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Senator Kim Carr
Labor Senator for Victoria