



Media Release
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Health Committee Doesn't Care About Dying Queenslanders

This is the message Dying With Dignity Queensland believes the Parliamentary Health Committee has sent.

"They are really saying that dying Queenslanders are not important", said Dying With Dignity Qld Inc President, Mrs Sharon Tregoning in response to the news of the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee's inability to make a decision on whether or not to proceed with Speaker Peter Wellington's call for an inquiry into End of Life Choices.

The committee, which is comprised of three ALP and three LNP members advised Mr Wellington "the committee did not reach agreement on whether to use its self-referral powers under the Act to initiate such an inquiry."

"This was an opportunity for the health committee to show some leadership in researching this matter and make improvements that could benefit all Queenslanders, for the impacts of dying and death experiences are not solely the domain of the dying," said Mrs Tregoning.

"This says to dying Queenslanders that the committee doesn't care about you," she said.

"They are meant to be our elected representatives, chosen to make decisions on our behalf, yet they could not even make a decision to proceed with a mere enquiry."

"Why should Queenslanders elect them to be our representatives?"

"Of course, we are particularly disappointed in light of the profile and action in other states of Australia around the issue of voluntary euthanasia. It is disheartening that our elected representatives won't even consider investigating the matter."

Mrs Tregoning said, "truly, if the ALP and LNP want an example of why there is such a large surge away from the major parties, this surely is evidence."

Dying With Dignity Queensland Inc, is an organisation which seeks to create legislative change around the topic of voluntary euthanasia in Queensland.

ENDS

High resolution images available on request.

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