

Subject: Aged Care Royal Commission

Dear [Name]

I'm writing to ask you to prioritise the fixing of aged care over the legalisation of euthanasia and assisted suicide in the territories.

The *Ensuring Northern Territory Rights Bill 2021 (Bill)* would pave the way for legalised euthanasia and assisted suicide in the Northern Territory and – if amended as expected – also in the Australian Capital Territory.

However, it is irresponsible to do so while the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety are yet to be implemented. Without a safe and affordable aged care system, discussions about end-of-life 'choice' are disingenuous.

State parliaments across Australia have ushered in euthanasia and assisted suicide laws without regard to the Royal Commission's findings, stating that aged care is the responsibility of the Commonwealth, and not the states.

The Federal Parliament cannot wash their hands of this responsibility, and must not allow the reach of euthanasia and assisted suicide laws to expand even further without doing something about aged care.

Euthanasia proponents, including Philip Nitschke, have gloated that the Royal Commission saw an increase of people interested in euthanasia and assisted suicide methods, because they would rather die than be placed into aged care.

This is not choice.

If the federal parliament is serious about providing choice to the terminally ill, then its first priority should be with ensuring that the recommendations of the Aged Care Royal Commission are implemented.

Please support the elderly and reject the Bill.

Thank you.