



Hon Steven Miles MP
Minister for Health and
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18 NOV 2019

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Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letters regarding petition numbers 3176-19, 3220-19, 3222-19 and 3227-19 tabled in Parliament on 17, 22 and 23 October 2019 in relation to Euthanasia – we can live without it. As these petitions are similar in nature, I have taken the liberty of responding to the petitions in this letter. I therefore ask that this response be noted against each petition.

Voluntary assisted dying is an important issue that generates significant debate in the Queensland community. The Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee (Parliamentary Committee) is currently conducting an inquiry into aged care, palliative and end-of-life care in Queensland. The inquiry is also considering community views on voluntary assisted dying and the provisions for it being legislated in Queensland.

Voluntary assisted dying has never been examined by the Queensland Parliament and it is a historic opportunity to contribute to the inquiry. Members of the public are encouraged to participate in the Parliamentary Committee's ongoing investigative and consultation processes.

The Queensland Government is committed to providing the best support possible for Queenslanders to ensure that their last journey in life is a peaceful one and has made significant investments in the delivery of palliative care services in Queensland. The Queensland Government has been actively engaged with the Parliamentary Committee during the inquiry process and looks forward to the handing down of the final report on the inquiry's findings to the Legislative Assembly by 31 March 2020.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

STEVEN MILES MP
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services