

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Verbal Submission to the Voluntary Assisted Dying Inquiry

Name of submitter: David John Hibert	Date: 14/08/2025
---------------------------------------------	-------------------------

SUBMISSION

I am starting with Alzheimer's and I am going down-hill. My concern is that I will not qualify for voluntary assisted dying (VAD) as my Alzheimer progresses. I want recognition of what I want to do now. I would like to be able to nominate my wife as guardian to have power to make the decision when I lose decision making capability.

Guardian is a term used in the Northern Territory and such a person should be able to speak on someone's behalf when all other factors are there but a person is not able to make the decision. People should be able to get VAD in any state and Medicare could cover it. If funding goes through Medicare then a Medicare card should allow anyone to access VAD anywhere in Australia. Then the states don't have to have be involved as the funding would come from the Australian Government.

I don't want to be stuck when I wont be able to make decisions competently so if that is the only thing that precludes me, I would like to be able to give powers my nominated guardian in my advanced personal plan. I am dreading not being able to make decisions so I would like to announce the decision whilst I am competent.