

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA VAD](#)
Subject: Rhonda Muller re VAD Submission
Date: Friday, 29 August 2025 6:40:12 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am in strong favour of legalizing VAD in NT to bring the NT in line with every other State and Territory in Australia.

I ask that we get rid of the 12 month time line to death, and the residency restrictions which restrict residents of one state or territory from being eligible for VAD in another State or territory due. Whilst Australia is a very large Continent, many citizens travel for work or holiday interstate all the time and could find themselves in an accident or diagnosed with terminal illness whilst away from their home, and unable to return to their home State or Territory.

I ask that all States and Territories campaign to remove the carriage laws that restrict dying people the ability to talk with a Doctor who could help them access VAD. I also think that Doctors who have to travel or perform VAD should be compensated for the additional time and travel costs associated.

I ask why do so many people see it as cruel to see or hear of marine animals like whales, dolphins, turtles, birdlife etc all die a slow and agonizing death from shark nets, and cruel to allow a racehorse to suffer after a broken leg yet for some people it is ok to allow their fellow humans and people they love, not to have the same level of compassion and degree of empathy when they are suffering and in pain and begging to be allowed to die peacefully, but want to deny them the human right to a pain free, peaceful death.

Cruelty is watching your loved one die a slow, painful and agonizing death over years. Cruelty is watching someone struggle in a world that doesn't understand them their entire lives, or those who have lost their mental capacity and linger in no man's land for years with dementia, or struggle without dignity as they are forced to live under the instruction and discretion of others such as the aged and disabled, and they all just want to have the freedom and right to die with dignity and without pain or suffering. This could very well be any of us during the course of our lifetime. Yet due to being denied their human right, they might feel forced to take matters into their own hands and end their suffering any way they can such as through suicide. Suicide is not only a lonely and traumatizing way to end your own life but it leaves loved ones as well as emergency services and innocent bystanders traumatized for the remainder of their lives rather than being able to lovingly be by the side of their loved one as they peacefully, end their life at their time of choosing.

Grief will come either way to those left behind, whether their loved ones end their lives by suicide or VAD, but long lasting pain, suffering and trauma does not have to be nor should it be the only option for those dying or wishing to end their life.

Yours sincerely
Rhonda Muller

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