

From: [Malcolm Caldwell](#)
To: [LA Committees](#)
Subject: VAD in the NT
Date: Monday, 25 August 2025 4:22:38 PM

Hello,

I am writing to state my position on the enactment of any laws that aim to introduce Voluntary Assisted Dying in the NT.

I am a long-term resident of the NT, having lived here since moving here in 1980 as a child with my family. I currently live in [REDACTED]

While laws allowing euthanasia have been enacted in many parts of Australia and around the world, this does not mean that these laws are actually required in the NT, nor beneficial to society in general.

My views are certainly informed by my faith as a Catholic, based on my understanding of Catholic doctrine. While it may be viewed that these laws are voluntary, and so will not affect people who are not going to use them, there is a profound impact on society as a whole.

The NT, with its Aboriginal population, has a much higher proportion of vulnerable people in comparison to other jurisdictions. Inevitably, there will be pressure put on individuals, even if well-intentioned, to take up the option to end their lives for various reasons.

It also has to be understood that where people decide to end their lives, there will be significant impact on others within their families and communities.

I reject any notion that these laws are progressive, and that they should be implemented in any understanding of progress.

I understand that many people have different opinions on this matter, and that they do so with heartfelt convictions, based on the best of motives. But there is no requirement to implement VAD and extreme danger in doing so, so on balance, the NT should not implement these laws.

Regards

Malcolm Caldwell