

**From:** [Gabrielle Brown](#)  
**To:** [LA VAD](#); [Chief Minister](#); [Electorate Port Darwin](#); [Electorate Arnhem](#)  
**Subject:** Support for VAD legislation in NT  
**Date:** Thursday, 14 August 2025 3:17:07 PM

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Good afternoon,

I strongly support the introduction of appropriate legislation to enable VAD in the NT.

My name is Gabrielle Brown, [REDACTED]

I very strongly want to have a say in my end of life decisions. When I am very unwell and am looking at a slow and traumatic death I should have the choice to be medically assisted to make that death less traumatic, painful, confronting and lingering.

Whether I choose to use VAD when the time comes is a matter for me, but it makes absolutely no sense to deny me that choice and to prolong a process that only causes grief and pain to me and my loved ones. It is a decision solely for me if I want to avail myself of that option. It is not a matter in which any government should have the right to refuse me that choice about my own life .

All terminally ill persons should have the option to ask for medical help to end their life at time they decide, and hopefully at a place they decide, and with their choice of people around them that can share the end of their life journey.

#### **Criteria -**

1. terminally ill, or profoundly disabled , no matter how long life may possibly continue post diagnosis of terminal illness
2. decision to have VAD option available needs to be made while the person is of sound mind (subject to allowing a person who has made a clear directive either orally to a medical practitioner or in a end of life document to be deemed to have made that decision even if certain formalities have not been met )
3. at least 1 medical practitioner (with palliative/geriatric or other suitable qualifications) to certify that above 2 criteria are met

#### **Other comments**

4. I am not an Aboriginal or Torres Strait islander and can't comment on how to ensure their access
5. Medical/health / nursing professionals need to be trained in assisting decision making and enabling VAD. They should have the right to not be involved if they have an objection to the process. If necessary a panel could be set up, which must have sufficient funding and resources to ensure that VAD can be accessed by the relevant terminally ill/eligible patients. This includes resources to visit communities and towns out of Darwin
6. A panel of experts and community reps can monitor the process.

7. Funding can be diverted from the funds currently used to nurse people who would choose VAD

I sincerely hope that VAD is enable in NT and that I can have that choice about my life when I need it

Kind regards  
Gabrielle Brown