

# South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society Inc. (SAVES)

## Patrons:

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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## NEWSPOLL SURVEY SHOWS 81% OF SOUTH AUSTRALIANS SUPPORT VOLUNTARY EUTHANASIA LEGISLATION

The question asked was

*“If a hopelessly ill patient, experiencing unrelievable suffering, with absolutely no chance of recovering asks for a lethal dose, should a doctor be allowed to provide a lethal dose, or not?”*

As has been shown consistently in the last 5 polls over 13 years, around  $\frac{3}{4}$  of South Australians believe that voluntary euthanasia should be a legal choice in face of intractable suffering.

Our current shameful law forces people to either suffer until the bitter end or attempt violent, unreliable, pre-emptive means of suicide. Some travel to Switzerland for legal assistance to die.

And still a majority of our members of parliament refuse to

### FACE THE FACTS

#### **Voluntary euthanasia legislation respects everyone’s choice and it enables**

- compassion
- control
- honesty
- regulation
- transparency
- accountability

**Our members of parliament are our lawmakers and they shirk their responsibility if they deny the anarchy under the current prohibitive law and say it’s not possible to enact good voluntary euthanasia law.**

**Safeguards and guidelines make sound legislation.** The Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2006, which is now on the Notice Paper for presenting in the Lower House, requires 14 steps before a person could access an assisted death and 7 more steps under which the law is to be accountable in parliament, plus Objects of the Act and a monitoring committee comprised of up to 8 community representatives.

A majority of our MPs have ignored, wrecked or railroaded the past 5 voluntary euthanasia bills presented here since 1995 – against the wishes of 76 -79% of South Australians, against the facts.

SAVES urges South Australians to tell their members of parliament to face the facts.

### **Contact**

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