

South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society Inc.

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To all members of the South Australian Parliament

THE WORLD FEDERATION OF RIGHT TO DIE SOCIETIES COMPRISES OVER 37 SOCIETIES IN 23 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE

Dear Member,

I am enclosing for your interest a fact sheet about the World Federation of Right to Die Societies, which supports its member societies to secure and protect the individual's right to die with dignity, according to their own faith and capacity. It is widely acknowledged, including by Palliative Care Australia, that even the best of medical or palliative care can not alleviate all suffering from hopeless or terminal illness. The Netherlands, Belgium, Oregon and Switzerland have enacted assisted dying legislation in response to this fact but our present law lags behind and thereby continues to perpetuate suffering.

As you can see from the number of World Federation members, the movement for law reform is widespread. There is no doubt that legislation is going to be enacted in other countries around the world. It is unstoppable because it is a rational and compassionate response to an urgent human need. I respectfully urge you, as our lawmakers, to work for the best voluntary euthanasia law possible so that everyone's rights and wishes are protected and respected. Please give the Dignity in Dying Bill your serious consideration, making any amendments that you think will add to its integrity and strength.

Please also feel free to contact me if you require any further information. We are an evidence based society with extensive world wide research available for your consideration. Alternatively you can visit our award winning website at www.saves.asn.au.

Yours sincerely

Frances Coombe
President