From: Dr Susie Linder-Pelz

Sent: Sunday, 16 March 2008 10:22 PM

To: Legal and Constitutional, Committee (SEN)

CC·

Subject: Rights of the Terminally Ill (Euthanasia Laws Repeal) Bill 2008

Dear Mr Hallahan,

I write as a former academic in behavioural science and health, who has written extensively in scientific and professional publications and been on the Board of Sacred Heart Hospice in Sydney.

Having witnessed the pain and agony of terminally ill people having to linger, when all hope of a reasonable quality of life is gone, I am writing to express support for The Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 2008.

Voluntary euthanasia is an act of caring. Just as in our society we respect peoples' right and ability to make choices in relation to careers, health care etc, so too must we respect an individual's right to say when they have had enough and are ready to die.

In a humane society there should be legal and peaceful options to end suffering. At present we act to end our animals' suffering more readily than that of our fellow humans!

I believe that voluntary euthanasia should be seen a rightful option in addition to-not instead of-palliative care.

Dr Susie Linder-Pelz