

TO: The Members of the Legislative Council,
Parliament of Victoria

FROM: Margaret Dore, Esq., MBA, President
Choice is an Illusion, a nonprofit corporation
opposed to assisted suicide and euthanasia

RE: Reject "Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill," allowing
non-voluntary euthanasia for non-dying people

- "Eligible" persons can have years or decades
to live
- Assisting persons can have an agenda
- Patient protections are unenforceable
- The bill allows legal murder
- Passage will traumatize patients and
families

DATE: October 29, 2017

INDEX

I. INTRODUCTION 1

II. DEFINITIONS. 1

III. ASSISTING PERSONS CAN HAVE AN AGENDA.. . . . 2

IV. PUSHBACK AGAINST ASSISTED SUICIDE. 2

V. FEW US STATES ALLOW ASSISTED SUICIDE.. . . . 3

VI. HOW THE VICTORIA BILL WORKS. 3

VII. THE BILL APPLIES TO PEOPLE WITH YEARS TO LIVE. 4

A. Treatment Can Lead to Recovery 4

B. Predictions of Life Expectancy Can Be Wrong 5

C. If Victoria Follows Oregon, the Bill Will
Apply to People With Chronic Conditions Who
Have Decades to Live 6

VIII.	THE BILL APPLIES TO OLDER PEOPLE.	7
	A. Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation.	7
	B. Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation Are Sometimes Fatal	8
	C. Victims Do Not Report	9
IX.	THE BILL CREATES THE PERFECT CRIME	10
	A. "Even If a Patient Struggled, Who Would Know?" . . .	10
	B. The Cause of Death Will Be Registered as a "Disease, Illness or Medical Condition," Which Will Prevent Prosecution for Murder.. . . .	10
X.	PATIENTS OTHERWISE LACK PROTECTION.. . . .	11
	A. Participants in a Death Are Required to Act in "Accordance" With the Bill, Which Renders Patient Protections Unenforceable	11
	B. In an Orwellian Twist, the Term, "Self- Administer," May Allow Someone Else to Administer the Lethal Dose to the Patient.. . . .	12
X.	OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.	14
	A. The Swiss Study: Physician-Assisted Suicide Can Be Traumatic for Family Members.. . . .	14
	B. My Clients Suffered Trauma in Oregon and Washington State...	15
	C. In Oregon, Other Suicides Have Increased with Legalization of Physician-Assisted Suicide.	15
	D. The Oregon Statistics Provide Little, If Any, Support for the Idea That the Passage of the Bill Is Needed Due to Physical Pain.. . . .	16
XI.	CONCLUSION	17
	APPENDIX	