

Date: _____

Dear _____

This is a request that you consider the following facts and evidence to vote against any proposed law that legalizes euthanasia or assisted suicide.

- Legalized euthanasia or assisted suicide will empower doctors to intentionally and abruptly end the lives of their patients with an injection or a prescription of a lethal substance.
- In Belgium, 32% of patients did not give consent (*Canadian Medical Journal Association, 2010*) and 47% of cases of euthanasia went unreported (*British Medical Journal, 2010*).
- Research and experience has shown that all physical suffering can be alleviated with good palliative care. For patients who are in the terminal phases of their lives, adequately funded and good palliative care is proven to be an effective and compassionate way to care for our loved ones.
 - **Today, only 20% of Quebecers and 30% of Canadians have access to palliative care in hospitals.**
- The scope of legalized euthanasia may be eventually extended to include as potential victims:
 - Depressed individuals, a group that is now being euthanized in the Netherlands and Belgium.
 - Children and youth in certain circumstances. For example: such an extension was recently enacted by Belgium's Legislature; and it is currently recommended by the Quebec Human Rights and Youth Commission. See YouTube video: "From a Child to a King", <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESQljzA3GB8>.
 - People who receive an incorrect diagnosis or prognosis. [Specifically, this is because in about 50% of the cases, doctors cannot accurately predict when a person with a severe chronic disease will live more than six months].
 - People, whose cases are considered too complicated, may be euthanized on the initiative of either the patients or family members or the medical staff.
 - Adolescents as young as 14 may choose to refuse treatment and thus prematurely end their lives without parental consent or knowledge.
 - In Canada approximately 90% of palliative care physicians euthanasia.
- Currently, over 9 million doctors in over a 100 countries represented by the World Medical Association reject euthanasia and request physicians not to euthanize people in countries or jurisdictions where it is permitted.
- Euthanasia is contrary to United Nations conventions and agreements which Canada must respect.

Considering the facts and evidence, please do not vote to legalize euthanasia or assisted suicide.

Sincerely yours,

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Postal Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____