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## **BRIEF TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

It is in our opinion that Bill C-14 does not protect vulnerable Canadians from homicide and abuse and therefore we urge Government to withdraw Bill C-14 and urge the tabling of a new law which maintains and enforces the principle of the inviolability of life.

### **We respectfully recommend the following EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDS TO PROTECT THE VULNERABLE FROM HOMICIDE AND ABUSE:**

1. Supporting and promoting Suicide Prevention to thwart a suicide contagion in Canada.

We support the Liberal MP Robert Falcon Quéllette, representing Winnipeg Center, in his recommendation to vote against Bill C-14 to fight the spirit of suicide.

2. Supporting and promoting Palliative and Hospice Care to meet the needs of vulnerable and suffering Canadians with pain management and care.

Canadians deserve health care which does not include euthanasia and assisted suicide. "Medical Aid in Dying" should not include giving consent to have oneself killed.

3. Supporting and protecting the right to life in its correct understanding which promotes life with pain management if needed and not the skewed version of the right to life as an argument to cause the death of one who is suffering.

We strongly urge government to withdraw Bill C-14 because the many Canadians who suffer should be offered care not killing.

4. Supporting and protecting the Charter rights of physicians, nurses, pharmacists and institutions which object to euthanasia and assisted suicide and may face criminal prosecution for refusing to administer or prescribe a lethal dose to a patient or offer a referral to others who may prescribe a lethal dose to a patient.

We strongly urge Government to implement conscience protection for all who should in no way be pressured, coerced or discriminated against for taking a conscientious stand against assisted suicide or euthanasia.

5. Supporting and protecting the vulnerable by removing the dangerous Bill C-14 which allows more protection for those who commit “Medical Aid in Dying” than those on the receiving end.

**Section 246 (6) “Reasonable but mistaken belief”** provides a loophole for outright murder of vulnerable people who have no one to advocate for them and will protect those who cause wrongful death. There are exemptions for people who either commit or assist in a “medical death” but who do so in error. The result could be the killing of a patient who did not intend to be killed.

**Section 241(5) of Bill C-14 under “Exemption for person aiding patient”** allows anyone to help administer a lethal medication in the assisted suicide of another person. This is very concerning because this would enable euthanasia advocates to coerce patients towards assisted suicide and create opportunity for abuse, even among family members.

**Section 241.2 (3) of Bill C-14** requires approval for euthanasia or assisted suicide be done by two physicians or nurse practitioners, without required oversight from an independent third party. Further to this, the bill permits that the same persons who do the killing also be the ones who file the report after the fact. Any incompetence or coercion on the part of these two persons would not be admitted.

Bill C-14 is a dangerous bill which clearly does not protect vulnerable Canadians and we respectfully urge Parliament to pass a new law which maintains and enforces the principle of the inviolability of life by prohibiting assisted suicide and euthanasia as acts that are legally and morally wrong.

Respectfully submitted,

Colette Stang, President  
Saskatchewan Pro-Life Association Inc.