

Dear Minister Wilson-Raybould,

I am aware that the government has recently tabled Bill C-14 that will legalize euthanasia/assisted suicide in Canada. While I am opposed to any form of euthanasia/assisted suicide, I write today asking you to protect the vulnerable and to respect the conscience rights of health care workers, hospitals, and other care facilities.

I ask the government to provide legislative protection for health care workers and facilities that object to euthanasia/assisted suicide because of their moral convictions and/or institutional mission and values. Those who oppose euthanasia/assisted suicide should never be forced to perform the procedure or arrange for it to take place (referral). No foreign jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia/assisted suicide has forced health care workers or facilities to act against their conscience.

The Government of Canada has stated that it wishes to have this legislation implemented consistently across the country. If that is the case, legislative protection of conscience rights at the federal level would provide such consistency.

I would also encourage the Government of Canada to move quickly to implement a national palliative care strategy and enhanced resources for the most vulnerable. More than ever, alternatives to assisted suicide must be accessible to every Canadian.

Sincerely,  
Janice Legree