

Dear Members of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights,

I am a Canadian citizen living with senior parents and having a disability myself.

We are concerned that this Bill removes important safeguards that protect vulnerable Canadians and at a time when many more people are feeling very vulnerable and many even finding their lives intolerable due to all the COVID restrictions, isolation.... This is the worst time to be making it easier for people to end their lives when there is already such an increase in suicides, depression...

This bill would only make the death rates rise much more and it also encourages neglect for suffering, elderly, disabled, and other vulnerable people (seriously depressed) and devalues their lives.

At the best of times, euthanasia puts pressure on seniors and vulnerable to consider ending their lives (as seniors have told me) and now it will be even worse.

And it sends a message to suffering Canadians that suicide is a valid solution to suffering.

Please show that you care for Canadians, esp the vulnerable by scrapping this bill and by focusing on suicide prevention and supportive care for everyone.

Please scrap this bill and instead perform a careful review of the existing MAiD to see what the damages are, approaching 20,000 deaths in 5 years!

At very least, please make these 4 changes to the Bill C-7:

1. **Please oppose** Bill C-7's proposed **expansion of assisted suicide beyond the end-of-life context**, which would make assisted suicide available to persons with disabilities and chronic but non-fatal illnesses.
2. **Please oppose the removal of the 10 day waiting period** for terminally ill and instead **propose an amendment to increase it to 30 days**.
3. **Please oppose** Bill C-7's legalization of **"written arrangements" to waive consent** once one has lost capacity to give consent, which gives MAiD doctors discretion to kill a person who cannot consent at the time of death.
4. **Please propose an amendment** that says that a doctor/nurse/staff may never suggest MAiD to a patient, but rather that any **request for information about MAiD can only be made by the patient themselves**.

Please do what is best for Canadians, for your own loved ones, by adding more safe-guards around assisted suicide rather than less.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns. I hope that you will take them to heart and exercise real justice on the Justice Committee.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Brink