

Thursday, 2 September, 2021

Dear Bishop, Father and Deacon,

The Queensland Parliament, in the next few weeks, will be debating and voting on controversial laws to make euthanasia and assisted suicide legal in the state.

These laws, if passed, will overturn foundational principles that have underpinned our medical and legal systems for centuries – the ethic of ‘do no harm’ and the prohibition on killing. We need to do all we can to protect Queenslanders rather than assist them to die. Euthanasia and assisted suicide laws undermine the fundamental relationship of trust that should exist between a patient and their doctor. They have the potential to put vulnerable Queenslanders who are elderly or terminally ill at risk of wrongful death, including placing pressure on them to take their own lives so as not to be a ‘burden’ on their family and friends. We have seen this occur in countries overseas which have gone down this path.

I am asking you to take two important steps today.

First, I ask you to sign this petition to the Queensland Parliament, asking them to reject these euthanasia and assisted suicide laws. The petition is sponsored by HOPE, a single-issue coalition of groups who oppose euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Petition link: https://www.no euthanasia.org.au/petition_2108_qld

Second, I ask you to email your Queensland State Member of Parliament and urge them to oppose the introduction of these laws.

Send an email to your MP link: https://www.no euthanasia.org.au/petition_2105_ocp_qld

This matter is now urgent.

Vulnerable sick and elderly people in Queensland need your help to ensure these lethal laws are not passed in this state. I urge you to sign the petition and email your MP today, and ask friends and family to do the same.

As always in the Lord,



Archbishop Mark Coleridge

o 07 3324 3415 **f** 3324 3377 **w** brisbanecatholic.org.au

a Level 1, Francis Rush Centre, 277 Elizabeth St Brisbane

p GPO Box 282 Brisbane QLD 4001 **e** aomail@bne.catholic.net.au



ARCHDIOCESE OF
BRISBANE