



# Lara GIDDINGS MP

Your Labor Member for Franklin

## Voluntary Assisted Dying Legislation

One day we will all face the inevitability of our own mortality. We hope that when we die, we do so peacefully and surrounded by those we love. Unfortunately, a peaceful death is not a guarantee. Surveys have consistently told us that, most of us would like to be given a choice to end our own life rather than suffer through a painful dying process. In eleven jurisdictions around the world, people have this choice, but not here in Australia.

In 2013, Greens Member of Parliament Nick McKim and I introduced a Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) Bill into the Tasmanian Parliament. It was narrowly defeated 11 votes to 13. We have not given up and we hope in this new parliament to find a member of the Liberal party who would be willing to join with us in a tri-partite co-sponsorship of a bill. Legislation of this nature is always subject to a conscience vote and we are hopeful that with a broad coalition of support across the parliament we will succeed in bringing a legal framework for assisted dying to Tasmania, to give people dying of a painful terminal illness the right to choose the timing of their death.

When the time comes, we would welcome your support to contact members of parliament to encourage them to reflect finally the views of the public and vote for a Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill.

Yours sincerely

Lara Giddings MP  
Labor Member for Franklin

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