

MPs will vote on 29 November on a Bill that, if successful, will introduce a dangerous assisted suicide law. This Bill is being rushed through Parliament. It was only published at 10pm on 11 November, giving MPs and the public barely two and half weeks to scrutinise the Bill before it goes to a vote. It's vital that MPs hear from us now that this bill would put countless vulnerable lives at risk.

**Your MP at Westminster urgently needs to hear from you.** Many have not made up their minds and want to hear their constituents' views. They have a free vote.

If it helps, you can reword some of these points (cut and paste if you're short of time):

**'STRICT SAFEGUARDS' NEVER WORK.** [Christine Gauthier](#), a former Canadian soldier and Paralympian, was offered assisted death by the Veterans Affairs department after she requested help with a wheelchair ramp. In Belgium, [Godelieva De Troyer](#) had suffered from chronic depression for twenty years when she was euthanised, her family unaware, by the doctor who co-chairs the federal euthanasia regulator and who co-founded an organisation she had just given money to. There are [many more](#) examples.

**Safeguards for this type of legislation cannot be protected.** There are numerous examples throughout the world where state assisted dying for a specified group of patients to be carried out by state employees has been legalised. However, under equality legislation, these laws have been successfully challenged resulting in increasing numbers of patient groups being offered assisted suicide. Safeguarding guarantees, especially for those who are vulnerable, cannot be delivered due to legal challenges.

**DISABLED PEOPLE ARE CONCERNED.** They want help with living, not the option to die. [Cerebral Palsy Scotland](#) told the Scottish Parliament that the Bill here is "not fit for purpose" and the [Glasgow Disability Alliance](#), said: "Disabled people firmly believe that this legislation is contrary to the human rights of disabled, older and terminally ill people." In Oregon 53% of persons opting for assisted suicide [cite being a burden](#) as a reason for dying. This is particularly relevant for those with disabilities.

**THE ANSWER IS BETTER PALLIATIVE CARE.** [Marie Curie Hospices](#) estimate that 90% of us will need palliative care at life's end. However, Parliament's own research briefing found that [we don't have enough palliative care](#) so people can't genuinely choose. This view is shared by Health Secretary [Wes Streeting](#), who opposes the Bill. The [Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow](#): says that "Palliative Care should be universal and appropriately funded, which is currently not the case."

**If you have experience of disability or good palliative care please share it with your MP – personal stories are very influential.**

Chris Kane is the Labour MP for Stirling and Strathallan  
Email: [chris.kane.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:chris.kane.mp@parliament.uk)

#### **Parliamentary office**

House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

#### **Constituency office**

Wellgreen Business Centre  
Stirling  
FK8 2DZ

THANK YOU if you've already written to your MP

Ref: Care not Killing [www.carenokilling.org.uk](http://www.carenokilling.org.uk); Pro-Life Office, Archdioceses of Edinburgh, Our Duty of Care [www.ourdutyofcare.org.uk](http://www.ourdutyofcare.org.uk); Parliament UK