

February 17, 2021

www.TheEFC.ca/Euthanasia

The need for action

Bill C-7 allows euthanasia for people who have disabilities or chronic illness, but who are not dying. It removes the requirement that a person's death must be 'reasonably foreseeable' to be eligible for "Medical Assistance in Dying" (MAID) and several key safeguards.

Tragically, these provisions have passed. They will become law, putting people with disabilities at risk.

The Senate has made this deeply flawed bill even worse. It has passed changes to allow euthanasia for those with mental illness alone and to allow advance requests by a person before they are diagnosed with an illness.

These changes are now going to the House of Commons. MPs will vote to accept, change or reject the Senate's amendments.

Please contact your MP to ask them to reject the Senate's changes. This debate will happen quickly, so please act right away.

More information on Bill C-7 is posted on our website, <u>TheEFC.ca/C-7</u>.

How to contact your local MP

MPs are currently debating the bill and will vote on the changes soon. There will likely only be time for phone calls or emails.

Step 1 - Find your MP's contact info using your postal code, <u>www.ourcommons.ca/members/en</u>. This site has the MP's email address, as well as the phone number for the MP's constituency office and the office in Ottawa.

Step 2 – Make contact with your MP. For greater impact, contact your MP in more than one way. For example, send an email and then follow up with a phone call. Or, send an email after a phone call. See <u>www.TheEFC.ca/CivicEngagement</u> for more tips on simple, effective action.

Leave a message with MP's staff

- Hi, my name is ______. I live in the riding on _____ street, in _____ community. I appreciate the way your office serves our community.
- I'm calling today because I want to ask our MP not to pass the changes to Bill C-7 made by the Senate.
- I don't think that Medical Assistance in Dying should be expanded for people who have mental illness alone. And I don't support advance requests for euthanasia. It's a critical safeguard that a person be able to consent at the time their life is ended.
- Can you let our MP know that I called and ask them to vote against these changes? Thanks for speaking with me.

Send an email to your MP and Senators from your province:

Dear [MP's name],

Please vote against the changes the Senate has made to Bill C-7. These changes make a deeply flawed bill even worse.

Canada must not allow euthanasia for people with mental illness alone. We must not allow advance requests for euthanasia by people who haven't been diagnosed with an illness or disease.

Please stop these changes from becoming law.

Sincerely,

[your name] [your address]

The EFC is a member of the Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience. Their website, <u>www.canadiansforconscience.ca</u>, has an easy and quick way to send email.

Please take one or more of these steps to stop these destructive changes from being adopted.