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**From:** Roger Compton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 30 July 2015 11:48 AM  
**To:** LSIC  
**Subject:** Submission - Enquiry - End of Life Choices

The Secretary  
Legal & Social Issues Committee  
Victorian Legislative Council

Submission to the Enquiry on End of Life Choices

As a former resident of Victoria considering return, I respectfully wish to lodge a submission to the above enquiry. In any event, decisions taken by the Victorian Parliament will inevitably influence the other State and Federal Parliaments in Australia.

I strongly believe that:

1. Moves towards legalised euthanasia must be avoided. Experiences in those countries where euthanasia has been legalised clearly show that this slippery slope has led to undesirable results which have been clearly documented. I am confident the Committee has obtained such material for study.
2. Greater access to palliative care, both institutional and at-home, are highly desirable and Governments in all States and Territories should address and remedy this shortfall. Again, I am sure the Committee will have ample documentation on this aspect.
3. Education of the wider population on end-of-life choices should be promoted. The use of "living wills" indicating a person's wishes, and family discussions on these aspects, should be advocated as a desirable approach to ensuring the final days of every Australian are filled with peace and a sense of security – not doubt and uncertainty. There is much material on these points, which no doubt the Committee has accessed to aid its deliberation.
4. Human life is a precious gift, from the cradle to the grave. It should be guarded and nurtured to the very end, with loving care and compassion. Every step possible should be made to enable this to become a reality. The Government has a role to play in facilitating this vital aim.

Yours faithfully  
Roger Compton

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