Reforms recommended for end of life choices

The Victorian Parliament’s Legal and Social Issues Committee has tabled its final report on its inquiry into end of life choices.

The 49 recommendations have been made after ten months of investigation.

“Our recommendations focus on improvements to advance care planning, palliative care and end of life choices through establishment of a new body, End of Life Care Victoria and enactment of a Future Health Act,” said Committee Chair Edward O’Donohue.

The Committee has recommended that the Victorian Government should, in certain limited circumstances, legalise assisted dying.

“The introduction of assisted dying laws should form part of a much broader reform that gives greater prominence to end of life care,” said Mr O’Donohue.

“This is essential to a patient centred approach with choice for those who need it and comfort for all,” he said.

“The Committee is indebted to the many medical, legal and other experts and organisations who shared their knowledge, expertise and experience in over 1000 submissions and at hearings and meetings across Victoria.

“I particularly respect and thank those individuals most immediately affected by this inquiry, who in the face of their own imminent death were able to share their insights with the Committee.

“It is now time for the Government to act.”

The report and summary booklet are available from the Committee’s website.

A video about the report is available from the Victorian Parliament’s YouTube Channel.

MEDIA QUERIES

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