when my loved Uncle developed cancer of the oesophagus around 1993, I had the most upsetting and anguished period of my life. It took him around a year to die and during this time we went through many many lows, His most common wish was that he could end it all and he repeated time and again that if he had known what was in front of him he would have gone down the paddock and shot himself, an ending according to his wishes was denied him by a system that insisted on prolonging his life and his suffering, nothing could be done for him and we had to watch as he faded away to skin and bone before his eventual painful death. Uncle Keith was a big strong country man/farmer and bachelor and his care and health during this time was left to me as he lived with us for many years, his prognosis from the very start was terminal, he begged doctors and nurses who all knew he was terminal to end it for him, the absolute gut wrenching part was his continuous begging to me to have the doctors end his suffering, the whole time left us his family gutted and helpless to help him. Is coughing up blood continuously and not being able to eat or drink compassionate. I have one thing to say to the people against this legislation, that I hope none of your loved ones are ever put in this situation. I ask the Victorian Parliament to receive this submission and favourably support it