



The Rev. The Hon. Fred Nile MLC ED., L.Th.,



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MEDIA RELEASE

DEATH CREEP OVER WESTERN AUSTRALIA

For immediate circulation

Western Australia has become the second state in the nation to pass euthanasia laws, after Victoria legalised “voluntary assisted dying” in June this year.

The Western Australian law was passed after a lengthy debate which saw even Labor government members of parliament vote against the proposed legal reform. However, their opposition was not enough to stop the bill passing.

Under the laws, a patient who has a motor neuron disease that results in a life expectancy of only six or less months can apply for euthanasia. Other requirements are that the patient’s suffering cannot be relieved, can make their own decisions, and the patient has lived in the state for at least a year. Before the euthanasia is provided, the patient must make three requests, two verbal and one in writing, and these must be assessed by two doctors separately.

Rev. Fred Nile MLC comments:

- *“Detailed reports have shown that the patients who may seek euthanasia are miserable only because palliative care is not sufficiently provided by the medical and health services. It is a travesty therefore that these death laws are being passed to cover up the system’s failure in providing the services that it should, namely, relief from pain and discomfort.”*

- *“By legalising suicide this way, all the Western Australian and Victorian governments have done is paper over their own failures in their state’s health policy. The death creep has washed over Western Australia, and this is a real tragedy.”*

END

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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fred Nile".