



The Scottish Parliament

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Dear Friend,

Firstly, can I say how pleased and proud I am to have the support of the Humanist Society of Scotland, and you, yourself, for the Assisted Dying Bill? Since starting work on the Bill, I've come across Humanists in all shapes, sizes and colours and I've been struck by their clear-headed compassion and natural humanity. I've felt fortified in my belief in the Bill's care and respect for the right of people to be sympathetically and professionally assisted to end a life that has become intolerable to them. Your support has buttressed my intention to try and put the Bill into Scots Law. If successful, I cannot imagine other than at least some MPs from south of the border will try to introduce a Bill into Westminster to apply to England and Wales.

Like me, I'm sure you're aware of the support for the general principles of the Bill amongst the general public. Also, I imagine you're aware of the misinformation and scare stories being spread by people who object to the Bill. The purpose of this is to impress firstly the Scottish Parliament committee dealing with the Bill that it should not be passed. Secondly, it is directed at obtaining a "No" vote by MSPs by trying to impress them with the number of churches who've condemned the principles and suggested practices, and the ultimate recognition of patient autonomy in the Bill.

To set the record straight, and to assist MSPs assess public mood and support for Assisted Dying, could you ask five friends, acquaintances, neighbours etc to contact by letter, e-mail or phone their MSPs, and ask them to support the Bill? If you are able to do this, it will help the Bill's passage immeasurably, starting from the beginning of September.

Should you need any further help or information, please contact my Parliamentary Office.

Once again, many thanks.

Margo

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