



Tourism House, 43 Mitchell Street
GPO Box 1624, Darwin, NT 0801
Phone (08) 8944 6666 Fax (08) 8981 4825 reception@amsant.com.au
ABN 26263401676

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

20th May 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Questions on Notice for Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs: Inquiry on the Rights of the Terminally Ill bill 2008

I write to forward AMSANT's answers to Questions on Notice put to Mr Des McKenzie, who gave evidence on behalf of AMSANT at the Senate Legal & Constitutional Affairs Committee's hearing on 15 April in relation to the Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 2008.

Question 1: At the time the Northern Territory legislation came into effect in 1995, was AMSANT in existence and did it make any submission or representation to the Northern Territory government about the legislation?

Answer: Yes, AMSANT was in existence at the time but did not make a submission or representation to the NT government about the issue.

Question 2: Does AMSANT have a view as to whether the Northern Territory government's right to consider euthanasia should be reinstated, or whether there should be consultation about this first?

Answer: AMSANT agrees that the NT government's right to consider the issue of voluntary euthanasia should be reinstated and that this is a separate issue which should not require prior consultation with the community.

I hope this information is of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

John Paterson
Executive Officer