**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 March 2008 2:56 PM

To: Legal and Constitutional, Committee (SEN)

Subject: Submission re enquiry into Euthania Laws Repeal Bill.

Submission to the Senate Standing Committee Inquiry into the Rights of the Terminally III (Euthanasia Laws Repeal) Bill 2008.

We strongly support the passage of the above Bill, which would repeal the Euthanasia Laws Act (1997), for the following reasons:

- 1. It would enable the Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory and Norfolk Island to make laws to give mentally capable people who are terminally ill the right to choose between a painful and often undignified slow death, and a peaceful dignified death with medical assistance.
- 2. People who do not wish to avail themselves of this right would be free not to do so, and thus would be unaffected by these laws.
- 3. The passage of the Bill would bring back into effect the Northern Territory Rights of the Terminally III Act 1995.
- 4. It has been proven in other jurisdictions that appropriate safeguard provisions in such laws do ensure their proper administration.

Submitted by Priscilla and Paul Flemming,