

from Hilary Webster

18.3.08

to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs,

"I think I will not kill myself to-day "

This line from a poem by Hilaire Belloc encapsulated the attitude of many elderly people who may fear not death itself, but the indignities and suffering of the process of dying. Give them the certainty that they may die at a time of their own choosing, take away the fear, and they will cheerfully go on living!

Yours sincerely,

P.s. You will observe that I am so old that I use a portable typewriter to write to you!

Copies to Bob Brown and Deb Foskey