

FACTSHEET 33: Timeline for voluntary euthanasia bills in the South Australian parliament

1995: *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill* tabled in the House of Assembly by John Quirke (Labor) but rejected without debate 13-31.

1996: *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 1996* tabled by Hon Anne Levy (Labor) in the Legislative Council; had a substantial second reading debate, being referred to a Social Development Committee, which in 1999 tabled its recommendation that active voluntary euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide remain criminal offences.

2000: The *Dignity in Dying Bill* tabled in the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly in November by Hon Sandra Kanck (Australian Democrats) and Hon Dr Bob Such (Independent) respectively.

2001: In March the Legislative Council Bill was voted into committee stage, ten votes to nine, but was undermined by a strategy of voting against the 'Objects of the Act', 12 votes to 9.

2002: The *Dignity in Dying Bill 2002* tabled in the Legislative Council by Hon Sandra Kanck. It was voted into committee stage nine votes to eight where the first three clauses were accepted, but the Bill was then 'railroaded' and defeated by 8 votes to 13 in 2004.

2003: The *Dignity in Dying Bill 2002* tabled in the House of Assembly by Hon Dr Bob Such, and withdrawn in 2005 due to the forthcoming election.

2006: *The Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2006* tabled by Hon Dr Bob Such in the House of Assembly.

2007: Parliament prorogued, thus requiring Hon Dr Bob Such to present his Bill again; now titled the *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2007*.

2008: Parliament again prorogued and Hon Dr Bob Such presented his Bill once again, now titled the *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2008*. Hon Mark Parnell (Australian Greens) tabled a different bill in the Legislative Council, the *Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care (Voluntary Euthanasia) Amendment Bill 2008*

Both Bills were carried through into 2009. The Parnell Bill failed by 2 votes, the Such Bill lapsed.

2010: *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2010* tabled in the House of Assembly (only change being the title) by Hon Dr Bob Such.

Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care (End of Life Arrangements) Amendment Bill 2010 – joint Bill tabled in the House of Assembly by Hon Steph Key (Labor) and in the Legislative Council by Hon Mark Parnell.

November 24 the Bill was lost on the voices in the Legislative Council and later lapsed in the House of Assembly.

2011: *Criminal Law Consolidation (Medical Defences – End of Life Arrangements) Amendment Bill 2011* tabled in the House of Assembly by Hon Steph Key on March 10. The Bill passed the Second Reading on July 28 and was voted into Committee (where amendments can be moved). Clause 1 was passed. Debate resumed on September 29 when Clause 2 was passed. Amendments were proposed to Clause 3 by the Member for Morialta and agreed. Debate resumed on October 20 when the Member for Kurna (and Minister for Health) moved to rescind all amendments previously agreed. The Bill later lapsed.

2012: *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2012* tabled in the House of Assembly by Hon Dr Bob Such, some differences with his 2010 Bill. It failed to pass Second Reading by 22 votes to 20 on June 14.

2013: *Ending Life with Dignity Bill 2013* tabled in the House of Assembly by Hon Dr Bob Such on February 7. There was no further debate.

2016: *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2016* tabled by Hon Steph Key on February 11. Second reading speeches made on March 10, April 14 and June 9, when the Premier Hon Jay Weatherill spoke in support of the Bill, October 20.

2016: *Death with Dignity Bill 2016* tabled by Dr Duncan McFetridge on October 20. Debate adjourned to November 3.