



# The Scottish Parliament

PE1031  
RECEIVED 1- DEC 2006

## PETITION TO THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

### DYING WITH DIGNITY

We, the undersigned, believe we have a moral obligation to preserve our own life and the lives of others; we believe that the concept of physician assisted suicide has no place in our society; we believe that the suffering of the terminally ill should be addressed by the development of palliative care. We therefore request that Members of the Scottish Parliament oppose any attempt to introduce assisted suicide by means of a Member's Bill.

#### Details of principal petitioner:

*Please enter the name of person and organisation raising the petition, including a contact address where correspondence should be sent to, email address and phone number if available*

Professor Donald M Macdonald,

Canon Donald Mackay, St Columba's Cathedral, Oban

#### Text of petition:

*The petition should clearly state what action the petitioner wishes the Parliament to take in no more than 5 lines of text, e.g.*

*The petitioner requests that the Scottish Parliament considers and debates the implications of the proposed Agenda for Change legislation for Speech and Language Therapy Services and service users within the NHS*

Petition by Professor Donald M Macdonald calling for Members of the Scottish Parliament to oppose the introduction of any legislation which would permit assisted suicide.

#### Additional information:

Petition supported by 2,400 signatories.

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**Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition:**

Letters to elected representatives and public statements opposing the concept of Dying with Dignity being associated with physician assisted suicide.

Issue has been raised with Alasdair Morrison MSP

**Petitioners appearing before the Committee**

*The Convener of the Committee may invite petitioners to appear before the Public Petitions Committee to speak in support of their petition. Such an invitation will only be made if the Convener considers this would be useful in facilitating the Committee's consideration of the petition. It should be noted that due to the large volume of petitions it has to consider, the Committee is not able to invite all petitioners to appear before the Committee to speak in support of their petition.*

*Please indicate below whether you request to make a brief statement before the Committee when it comes to consider your petition.*

**I DO request to make a brief statement before the Committee**

☐

**I DO NOT request to make a brief statement before the Committee**

☒

**Signature of principal petitioner:**

*When satisfied that your petition meets all the criteria outlined in the Guidance on submission of public petitions, the principal petitioner should sign and date the form in the box below. Other signatures gathered should be appended to this form.*

**Signature**

**Date**

11/12/06

**Please note that any additional information, copies of relevant correspondence and additional signatures should be appended to this form and submitted to:**

The Clerk to the Public Petitions Committee,  
The Scottish Parliament,  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 5186

Fax: 0131 348 5088

e-mail: [petitions@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:petitions@scottish.parliament.uk)