



JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Justice Committee to hear from people across the country on End of Life Choice Bill

For immediate release: Friday 22 June 2018

Press Release: Justice Committee

The Justice Committee has heard from many national organisations on the End of Life Choice Bill and is now ready to hear from everyone who asked to be heard on the bill. Due to the unprecedented interest in this important and complex matter, Justice subcommittees will travel to more than a dozen centres across New Zealand.

"The committee has received over 35,000 submissions and public interest is naturally high in this bill. I am heartened that so many people have taken the time to write and express their view. Around ten percent of submitters indicated that they also want to talk to us. It is for these reasons we have decided to travel to different parts of New Zealand to hear from people," says Committee Chairperson Raymond Huo.

"The committee will form subcommittees to enable it to travel the country and hear from as many people as possible in person, over the coming weeks."

"The proposed amendments this bill seeks to make to the Crimes Act to allow euthanasia and assisted suicide are such fundamental changes to our law that a record number of New Zealanders have been motivated to write to Parliament and asked to be heard. We are committed to respectfully hearing all submitters and in an effort to be as transparent, inclusive, and accessible as possible we invite the public to join us, as well as all MPs, to ensure they are aware of the issues before they exercise their conscience vote early next year," says Committee Deputy Chairperson, Hon Maggie Barry.

Committee staff are publishing submissions, beginning with those from organisations and then individuals. These will appear on the Justice Committee's page as they are processed.

Committee staff will be in touch with individuals and organisations who made submissions and asked to be heard, to assist them with times and venues. Hearings will be advertised on the Parliament website and communicated to the public via social media.

Hearings are open to the public and media, and where possible, livestreamed to the committee's Facebook page.

ENDS



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Indicative hearing schedule – Justice Committee – End of Life Choice Bill

Location	Date
Auckland	Thursday 28 June 2018 *full committee, national organisations based in Auckland
Auckland	Friday 29 June 2018
Christchurch (morning)	Monday 2 July 2018 *full committee, national organisations based in Canterbury
Nelson (afternoon)	Monday 2 July 2018
Auckland	Friday 20 July 2018
Auckland	Friday 27 July 2018
Auckland	Monday 30 July 2018
New Plymouth	Tuesday 17 July 2018
Napier	Thursday 19 July 2018
Tauranga	Monday 23 July 2018
Wellington	Monday 23 July 2018
Rotorua	Monday 30 July 2018
Wellington	Monday 30 July 2018
West Coast	Monday 30 July 2018
Auckland	Friday 3 August 2018
Whangarei	Monday 6 August 2018
Invercargill	Monday 6 August 2018
Dunedin	Monday 6 August 2018
Auckland	Monday 6 August 2018
Auckland	Friday 10 August 2018
Hamilton	Monday 13 August 2018
Wellington	Monday 13 August 2018
Palmerston North	Thursday 23 August 2018
Whanganui	Tuesday 28 August 2018
Christchurch	Monday 3 September 2018

Please note that while the committee tries its best to keep to the schedule, changes may occur at short notice due to urgent parliamentary commitments. The secretariat is here to help you have your say and can be contacted at justice@parliament.govt.nz.