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27<sup>th</sup> October, 2009.

## **Media Release**

A new nationwide opinion poll, conducted by Newspoll, showed 85% of Australians support Voluntary Euthanasia, an increase of five percentage points on the last survey in 2007.

The survey found 85% of Australians in support of VE, 10% were opposed and 5% were not sure.

The poll showed negligible difference in the level of support among men (84%) compared to women (86%). It also found that among 18 – 34 year-olds the support was 87%.

With such support among the population it is surprising that the parliamentarians can afford to ignore the question.

The last weekend saw a conference in Adelaide of all voluntary euthanasia and dying with dignity societies. The Australia-wide group decided to coordinate their activities to legislate on voluntary euthanasia.

The Societies expressed their disappointment in the fact that though bills have been presented in the various state parliaments, those have not even been debated.

With over thirteen million adult Australians showing their support for such law it is time the law-makers explained why they could not find time to debate the issue.

Hon Robin Chapple MLC has expressed his intention to table a bill in the Legislative Council and the West Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society hopes that the Premier will show some leadership and allow time to debate the bill. We hope that Mr Barnett and other members of the parliament will not allow the debate to be mired in meaningless platitudes and discuss the issue with compassion and understanding.

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