

## **Health, Social Care and Sport Committee**

UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities c/o The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OCHR)

## 3 December 2025

Dear Members of the UN Committee,

## Assisted Dying for Terminally III Adults (Scotland) Bill

I am writing in reference to the above-titled Bill, which is currently passing through the legislative process in the Scottish Parliament.

The Bill was introduced as a Member's Bill in the Scottish Parliament by Liam McArthur MSP on 27 March 2024.

The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee was designated as lead committee for Stage 1 consideration of the Bill (consideration of its general principles) on 16 April 2024. On 30 April 2025, having completed its Stage 1 scrutiny, the Committee published its Stage 1 report on the Bill.

On 13 May 2025, the Scottish Parliament voted to agree the general principles of the Bill.

The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee commenced Stage 2 proceedings on the Bill (the main amending stage) at its meeting on 4 November 2025. Stage 2 proceedings continued at subsequent meetings of the Committee on 11 and 18 November and concluded at the Committee's meeting on 25 November 2025.

At its meeting on 18 November, the Committee agreed that, as soon as Stage 2 proceedings were concluded, I should write to the UN Committee to invite it to submit any views it may have about the Bill's compatibility with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

As background, I invite Members of the UN Committee to view the Assisted Dying Bill for Terminally III Adults (Scotland) Bill as amended at Stage 2 via the following weblink:

## Bill as amended

I am hopeful that the UN Committee might be in a position to provide a response in advance of Stage 3 of the legislative process which is expected to happen in

Contact: Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.

Email HSCS.Committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

February or March 2026 (before the Scottish Parliament is dissolved ahead of elections due to take place in early May 2026).

With that in mind, I would be very grateful if you were able to respond to this letter **no** later than 15 January 2026. Any response received within that timeframe will be useful for Members of the Scottish Parliament as they consider the Bill at Stage 3.

I look forward to hearing from the UN Committee at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully,

Clare Haughey MSP

Convener, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee