



Queensland
Government

15/6/11

Office of the **Minister for Health**

4 JUN 2011

Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

LAID UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE	
No. <i>5311T 4668</i>	15 JUN 2011
MP: _____	
Clerk's Signature: _____	

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter dated 13 May 2011, regarding Petition Number 1679-11, tabled in Parliament on 12 May 2011.

The Government fully supports palliative care as an integral part of its health care and will continue to financially support the important service that palliative care provides to patients and their families.

As a result of strong representations from Julie Attwood MP, Member for Mt Ommaney, the Deputy Premier and former Minister for Health confirmed in early January 2011, that the existing contract for palliative care beds at Canossa Private Hospital will remain in place at least until the new 10 bed dedicated Palliative Care Unit being built at the Queen Elizabeth II (QEII) Jubilee Hospital is open. Continuation of existing services via the Canossa Private Hospital whilst this new unit is built at QEII will ensure high standards of palliative care services continue to be available for patients in the Brisbane South Metropolitan Area.

The new unit at the QEII Hospital, scheduled to open in late 2011, will also enable continuation of the highly recognised palliative care medical registrar training program as well as providing a sustainable Queensland Health palliative care workforce into the future.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

GEOFF WILSON MP
Minister for Health

19th Floor State Health Building
147-163 Charlotte Street Brisbane
GPO Box 48 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3234 1191
Facsimile +61 7 3229 4731