



The Scottish Parliament  
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Dear Alex,

### **End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill**

I write to you in your capacity as chair of the Parliamentary Bureau and in my capacity as Convener of the Health and Sport Committee.

The Committee wishes to express its concern relating to the Bureau's decision to recommend that an ad hoc committee be established to consider the End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill, especially as the Health and Sport Committee was not consulted, nor informed. As an experienced subject committee, we consider this to be disrespectful.

We are also concerned that this establishes a precedent and would be obliged if the Bureau could specify fully the reasons for its decision.

Separately, given that it is highly probable that Gil Paterson's proposed Palliative Care (Scotland) Bill, covering substantially connected issues to Margo MacDonald's Bill, requiring the same witnesses, would be referred to the Health and Sport Committee, it would seem logical either that the Health and Sport Committee deal with both bills or that the ad hoc committee deal with both bills.

The Committee has agreed to make this letter public.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Grahame  
Convener