



FACTSHEET 33: Timeline for Voluntary Assisted Dying bills in South Australia

	Year of introduction	Name of Bill
1	1995	Voluntary Euthanasia Bill (1995)
2	1996	Voluntary Euthanasia Bill (1996)
3	2000	Dignity in Dying Bill (2000)
4	2002	Dignity in Dying Bill (2002)
5	2006	Voluntary Euthanasia Bill (2006)
6	2007	Voluntary Euthanasia Bill (2007)
7	2008	Voluntary Euthanasia Bill (2008)
8	2008	Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care (Voluntary Euthanasia) Amendment Bill (2008)
9	2010	Voluntary Euthanasia Bill (2010)
10	2010	Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care (End of Life Arrangements) Amendment Bill (2010)
11	2011	Criminal Law Consolidation (Medical Defences – End of Life Arrangements) Amendment Bill (2011)
12	2012	Voluntary Euthanasia Bill (2012)
13	2013	Ending Life with Dignity Bill (2013)
14	2016	Voluntary Euthanasia Bill (2016)
15	2016	Death with Dignity Bill (2016)
16	2020	Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill (2020)

1995: Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 1995 tabled in the House of Assembly by John Quirke (Labor) but rejected without debate 13-31.

1996: Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 1996 tabled by Hon Anne Levy (Labor) in the Legislative Council; had a substantial second reading debate, being referred to a Social Development Committee, which in 1999 tabled its recommendation that active voluntary euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide remain criminal offences.

2000: Dignity in Dying Bill 2000 tabled in the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly in November by Hon Sandra Kanck (Australian Democrats) and Hon Dr Bob Such (Independent) respectively. In March 2001 the **Dying in Dignity Bill 2000** was voted into committee stage, ten votes to nine, but was undermined by a strategy of voting against the 'Objects of the Act', 12 votes to 9.

2002: Dignity in Dying Bill 2002 tabled in the Legislative Council by Hon Sandra Kanck; voted into Committee Stage, 9 votes to 8 and the first three clauses were accepted; 2004, the Bill was defeated 8 votes to 13. 2003, **Dignity in Dying Bill 2002** tabled in the House of Assembly by Hon Dr Bob Such; withdrawn in 2005 before the forthcoming election.

2006: Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2006 tabled by Hon Dr Bob Such in the House of Assembly.

2007: Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2007 tabled by Hon Bob Such in the House of Assembly (after Parliament prorogued end of 2006).

2008: Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2008 tabled by Hon Dr Bob Such after Parliament again prorogued end of 2007; Bill lapsed in 2009.

2008: *Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care (Voluntary Euthanasia)*

Amendment Bill 2008 tabled in Legislative Council by Hon Mark Parnell (Australian Greens); Bill failed Second Reading by 2 votes in 2009.

2010: *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2010* tabled in the House of Assembly (only change being the title) by Hon Dr Bob Such.

2010: *Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care (End of Life Arrangements)*

Amendment Bill 2010 – joint Bill tabled in the House of Assembly by Hon Steph Key (Labor) and in the Legislative Council by Hon Mark Parnell. November 24 the Bill was lost on the voices in the Legislative Council and later lapsed in the House of Assembly.

2011: *Criminal Law Consolidation (Medical Defences – End of Life Arrangements)*

Amendment Bill 2011 tabled in the House of Assembly by Hon Steph Key on March 10. The Bill passed the Second Reading on July 28 and was voted into Committee (where amendments can be moved). Clause 1 was passed. Debate resumed on September 29 when Clause 2 was passed. Amendments were proposed to Clause 3 by the Member for Morialta and agreed. Debate resumed on October 20 when the Member for Kurna (and Minister for Health) moved to rescind all amendments previously agreed. The Bill later lapsed.

2012: *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2012* tabled in the House of Assembly by Hon Dr Bob Such, some differences with his 2010 Bill. It failed to pass Second Reading by 22 votes to 20 on June 14.

2013: *Ending Life with Dignity Bill 2013* tabled in the House of Assembly by Hon Dr Bob Such on February 7. There was no further debate.

2016: *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 2016* tabled by Hon Steph Key on February 11. Second reading speeches made on March 10, April 14 and June 9, when the Premier Hon Jay Weatherill spoke in support of the Bill, and October 20.

2016: *Death with Dignity Bill 2016* tabled by Dr Duncan McFetridge on October 20. Debate adjourned to November 3, 15, and 16 with a total of 30 Second Reading Speeches being made. At 10.20pm on November 16, the Bill was voted into Committee stage 27 to 19. After a six hour debate considering approximately 40 amendments, the division for the third reading was tied 23:23. The Bill was then defeated on the casting vote of the Speaker, Hon Michael Atkinson MP, a long term opponent, at 4.12am on November 17.

2020: *Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2020* tabled in both Houses on December 2, 2020, by Hon Kyam Maher MLC (Labor) in the Legislative Council and Hon Susan Close MP (Labor) in the House of Assembly. Debate resumed in the Legislative Council in March 2021 and the VAD Bill was passed on May 5 with a vote of 14 to 7.

The amended VAD Bill was tabled in the House of Assembly on May 12, with Second Reading Speeches being made on May 26.

Debate resumed in Committee for consideration of amendments on June 9.

The VAD Bill passed the Third Reading with a vote of 33 to 11 on June 10 and was returned to the Legislative Council for consideration of amendments passed in the House of Assembly.

A further amendment was moved in the Legislative Council on June 23 in relation to institutional conscientious objection, and passed.

The VAD Bill returned to the House of Assembly the following morning, Thursday, June 24, and the Legislative Council amendment was agreed at 11.05am.