



Ministry
of Justice

Lord Faulks QC

Minister of State for Justice
102 Petty France
London SW1H 9AJ

T 020 3334 3555

F 020 3334 3669

E general.queries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/moj

The Rt Hon The Lord Falconer of Thoroton
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

Your ref:
Our ref: 12038

1) July 2014

Dear Charlie

ASSISTED DYING BILL

As you know, I will, by convention, be the penultimate speaker when your Bill is debated on Friday 18 July. However, given the number of speakers, I thought it would be helpful to set out the Government's position in advance of the debate.

The Government believes that any change to the law in this emotive area is an issue of individual conscience. It is, rightly in our view, a matter for Parliament to decide rather than a matter of Government policy.

It follows that the Government takes a neutral position on whether the Assisted Dying Bill should progress. I shall do this when I speak on Friday.

I am copying this letter to all colleagues who have signed up to speak at the debate and am placing a copy in the House Library. I look forward to the debate.

Are
you
Edward

EDWARD FAULKS