



**NORTHERN TERRITORY**  
***of* AUSTRALIA**

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Dr TANZIL RAHMAN MLA

*Member for Fong Lim*

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**HANSARD EXTRACT**

**LCAC VAD FIRST INTERIM REPORT**

WEDNESDAY 30 JULY 2025

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*This extract is taken from the Official Hansard of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory*

Mr O’Gallagher  
Mr Patel  
Dr Rahman  
Mr Yan  
Mrs Zio

Motion not agreed to.

**SPEAKER’S STATEMENT**  
**Cameras in Gallery**

**Madam SPEAKER:** For the information of guests in the gallery, cameras are not allowed to be used. That has been addressed. It is one of the rules of this parliamentary Chamber.

**PAPER TABLED**  
**Voluntary Assisted Dying in the Northern Territory – First Interim Report**

**Dr RAHMAN (Chair of Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee):** Madam Speaker, I table the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee report, Voluntary Assisted Dying in the Northern Territory – First Interim Report, and associated minutes of proceedings.

Voluntary assisted dying is a complex issue that raises difficult and challenging questions for individuals, groups and society as a whole. What is clear, though, is that it remains an unresolved subject matter in the Northern Territory and a matter of significant interest for Territorians. With that in mind, the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee is pleased to have the opportunity to progress resolution of the issue in our polity.

I am pleased, as Chair of the committee, to present this first interim report on VAD in the Northern Territory to the Legislative Assembly and the public at large as testament to the work undertaken to date by the committee to address the VAD inquiry terms of reference provided to us by the Attorney-General. The committee has been working cooperatively and constructively, ably assisted by the secretariat to produce this document and ancillary materials in a timely fashion.

We remain committed to engaging with the issues at hand systematically and fairly and communicating our work regularly to keep Territorians abreast of our progress.

We trust the report will be of assistance to interested parties.

Madam Speaker, I move that the report be noted.

Motion agreed to; report noted.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr EDGINGTON (Leader of Government Business):** Madam Speaker, I move that the Assembly do now adjourn.

**Ms UIBO (Arnhem):** Madam Speaker, I proudly speak about a special occasion for the Djalkiripuyngu people across the Blue Mud Bay area, located on the Gulf of Carpentaria in north-east Arnhem Land. Today, 30 July 2025, marks the 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic decision by the High Court of Australia to grant the Djalkiripuyngu traditional owners their hard-fought native title rights to the intertidal waters of Blue Mud Bay in 2008.

This decision stands as one of the most significant affirmations of Aboriginal legal rights in Australian history, a decision which subsequently led to the inclusion of intertidal waters within the boundaries of land covered by the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*. This significant change for Australia came from the remote coastline of the Northern Territory. The outcome of this case is a testament to the ongoing strength of the Djalkiripuyngu traditional owners, Yolngu people and Aboriginal Territorians when it comes to having their say about what happens on their country and their sea country.

Last year the Member for Daly and I had the immense privilege of welcoming a delegation of leaders from Blue Mud Bay, including Dr Djambawa Marawili AM and Waka Mununggurr, to perform ceremony at the