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Page 001

1415



28 JUN 1996

Maggie Hickey

Opposition Leader and Member for Barkly

Shadow Minister for Chief Minister; Police, Fire & Emergency Services; Asian Relations, Trade & Industry; Tourism; Ethnic Affairs; Status of Women

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HICKEY DEFENDS TERRITORY IN LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER

Territory Labor Leader Maggie Hickey has written to the Prime Minister Mr Howard and Federal Opposition Leader Mr Beazley opposing Federal intervention in the Territory's voluntary euthanasia laws and on comments by National Party Senator Julian McGauran that she has described as offensive..

Mrs Hickey has told the Prime Minister "... the Labor Opposition believes that the proposed Private Members Bill (from Mr Andrews MP) should not be viewed as a Bill dealing with voluntary euthanasia but as a totally unwarranted curtailment of the autonomy of the Northern Territory."

"I have told the Prime Minister that regardless of people's views on the issue of voluntary euthanasia Federal intervention is strongly opposed.

"I have also told the Prime Minister of my disgust at the remarks of Coalition Senator Julian McGauran who has described the Northern Territory as a "tin pot" and "a hamlet."

"Some Federal Coalition Members think they can say what they like about the Northern Territory and we will take it. Well they are wrong.

"I have asked the Prime Minister whether the views of Senator McGuaran reflect the attitudes of the Prime Minister towards Territory Statehood or does he intend to endorse the push for Statehood by 2001 with additional Senators.

"I shall be awaiting the Prime Minister's response with interest."

Contact Maggie Hickey on 0419 841 819 or 89 817666

28 June, 1996

Your Team, Working for the Territory

