



May 16, 2023
MK Tzvika Fogel
Chairman, National Security Committee
The Knesset, Israel

Subject: The Position of the Ethics Bureau of the Israeli Medical Association
Regarding the Proposed Amendment to the Prisons Ordinance
(Denial of Eligibility for Funding of Health Services that Improve Quality of Life for
Security Prisoners)

The Israeli Medical Association strongly opposes any legislative proposals that discriminate between categories of prisoners with respect to medical treatment.

In accordance with the principles of medical ethics, every human being is entitled to medical care without discrimination — whether a prisoner or any other individual. Accordingly, any treatment provided to one prisoner under the National Health Insurance Law must likewise be provided to all others. Physicians in Israel are committed to providing care based on the principles of equality and justice, free from external or irrelevant considerations.

We regret the proposed legislation, which conflates unrelated issues and threatens to undermine one of the cornerstones of Israeli society — the medical profession.

Best regards,

Dr. Yossi Walfisch

Chair of the Ethics Committee