Today I met a man who was paralysed following a stroke. He wanted a doctor to be able to help him end his life without fear of prosecution.

# THANKS TO LEGAL AID,

I was able to challenge the criminal law that prohibits assisting a person to die.

The proposal to remove funding in "borderline" cases will prevent some test cases, such as those concerning the right to die, from being brought. While the outcomes of test cases are difficult to predict, their moral and societal significance is not.

Today I met a man with terrible injuries suffered in a road accident. Another victim died. He was charged with death by dangerous driving.

# THANKS TO LEGAL AID,

was able to prove at trial that an "independent" witness was the true culprit and he was acquitted.

economic growth, but reducing the sized and niche criminal firms to survive. Not only is this antithetical to availability of quality representation threaten the ability of small, medium will risk more miscarriages of justice. proposals

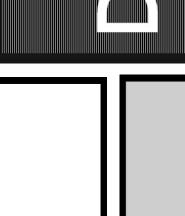


cases that would not qualify for legal aid if The following are just a few examples of the proposals were in place at the time: The Gurkhas; the Afghani interpreters; the family of Baha Mousa; Binyam Mohamed; the parents of Victoria Climbié; the family of Jean Charles de Menezes; and the family of Jimmy Mubenga. Produced by the Young Legal Aid Lawyers: www.younglegalaidlawyers.org @YLÁLawyers

Visit the site for the campaign: www.savelegalaid.co.uk

savelegalaid.wordpress.com @Thanks2LegalAid Read more case studies:

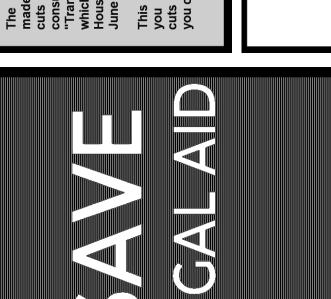






has new a ⊒ titled which was debated in the "Transforming Legal Aid", House of Commons on 27 made proposals for cuts to legal aid consultation paper Government June 2013.

you should oppose these This leaflet sets out why cuts and what, as an MP, you can do to help.



### The proposals will cut legal aid by:

test in all civil cases. Introducing a discriminatory "residence"

Eliminating funding for the early stages of judicial review cases.

treatment cases. Preventing prisoners from bringing

and immigration solicitors Reducing fees paid to criminal, civil, family

Cutting fees paid to experts

way of secondary legislation in The changes will be brought in by

### The effect will be to:

victims of trafficking, and children. test the protection of the law, such as refugees, Deny vulnerable people who will fail the residence

state to account. discouraged from taking on judicial review cases. The ordinary citizen will find it harder to hold the Create a chilling effect where law firms

Create a poor quality, low value criminal legal aid system. Small criminal firms will go under. Greater costs will be incurred by the state when the big, cheap firms fail to deliver proper representation by the subsequent demands on court time and resources.

decisions. More offenders will remain in high cost, Threaten the civil liberties of prisoners and inhibit the ability of the Parole Board to make correct

aid lawyers who will not have the skills or training to support clients who require legal aid in the future. Low pay will also turn back the clock on Make it harder for junior lawyers to enter the profession. There will be a lost generation of legal high security prisons unnecessarily.

cases where expert evidence is crucial Increase the likelihood of miscarriages of justice in diversity within the legal profession.

#### Four things you can do as an MP to help protect our justice system:

- Support the Early Day Motion Elfyn Llwyd MP; Competitive Tendering lodged by speaking out against Price
- 2 speak out at any debate that petition. Encourage, attend and signed the Save UK Justice e-More than 100,000 people
- 3 secondary legislation; and Be ready to pray against or support amendments to the
- 4 Chris Grayling MP and the Ministry Raise your concerns directly with

to Legal Aid". anonymously by legal aid Opposite are a series of lawyers to the blog "Thanks case studies submitted

practice. cuts are a false economy in Read on to see why these

> to a risk reduction programme disabilities prevented him from access Today I met a prisoner. His learning

He languished in prison as a result

### THANKS TO LEGAL AID

prisoners to the public. nelped reduce risk established this was discriminatory & these

inside costs the Ministry of Justice far access to legal aid. Keeping a prisoner than necessary if they do not have more than legal aid and a place on a risk prisoners can remain detained longer This case study demonstrates how

> his Will. was trapped in a care home against Today I met a father whose autistic son

allow him back to live with his family. The local authority would not agree

# THANKS TO LEGAL AID,

court to allow him to return home. was able to get an order from the

for permission in these strong cases in court system will negate any savings. order to get paid. The extra cost to the new proposals, lawyers will have to apply before proceedings are issued. Under the majority of judicial review cases settle This case went to court, but the vast

raped over a period of years. had been trafficked to the Today I met a pregnant teenager who

decision to remove her from the UK The Home Office made a

### THANKS TO LEGAL AID,

she is safe from the reach of traffickers was able to reverse their decision so

lack the documents lawyers will need to verify their residence. There will be cases take longer without lawyers. new residence test. Other clients may Most victims of trafficking will fail the the court system a great deal because more litigants in person, which will cost

> mental health problems Today I met an Iraqi man with severe

detention. He was so unwell he was unable to comply with proper treatment. He was kept in inhumane conditions in

## THANKS TO LEGAL AID,

urgent treatment. He is now a refugee. got him transferred to a hospital for

longer than necessary will wipe out any people held in immigration detention. legal aid lawyers representing most The costs of holding detainees for potential savings the policy will create The new residence test will prevent