

## Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 119  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:**  
**Attachments:** See attachment  
**Submitter Comments:**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Re: criminal code (decriminalising sex work) and other legislation Amendments bill 2024  
**Date:** Thursday, 7 March 2024 9:23:46 PM

---

6th March 2024

Committee Secretary  
Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee  
Parliament House  
Brisbane Qld 4000

Re: Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to this process.

I would like to make the following submission to show my support for the Decriminalisation Bill as a sole operator sex worker.

Hello. My real name is [REDACTED] but my sex worker name is Harley Roze.

I consent for my submission to be used as you see fit. I prefer my real name not be published publicly however my sex worker name can be used.

I have been a sex worker since 11th July 1996 – almost 28 years. I have worked before the current legislation existed and up until this present day.

Decriminalisation is important to me as being in this industry for so many years, I have faced much discrimination from banks, health care professionals, the general public, accommodation, housing and even the police. There is so much I could write on this alone.

I have had my motel room searched for drugs (which I've never used) by police whilst I was wearing a towel. Then I was turfed out to the street in a town far from my home, with

no transport and no where to stay. I was removed by force. All because I was a sex worker.

To apply for rentals, I have to have a false story with people to back me up to say how I earn my income. I support anti discrimination laws for sex workers for accommodation, housing, banking (these things are essential services) we should be afforded this right.

I am a 51 year old mother of two children who are now in their 30's, I'm also a grandmother of three. I'm just your regular lady next door.

For many years I've suffered debilitating pain from a car accident in my younger years, which has now lead to further disability with arthritis, fibromyalgia, depression etc. I am unable to hold down a job, I need too many days off. Sex work affords me to not rely on government financial assistance and to be able to manage my health as I need. It has improved my quality of life to have this control.

As a mature lady it's imperative that I feel safe in my work, as should anybody in whatever work they do. The relief to be able to share a premises with someone, be able to tell people where I am and what time I'm expected out of a booking. These are simple, common sense personal safety strategies. Unfortunately it's illegal for me to keep myself safe in QLD. Every day I have to choose to be vulnerable or to break the law.

Being able to advertise my services would actually make me safer, instead of having to negotiate with the client in the room and sometimes I can be put in a bad position when a client can't get what he wants.

I have been sexually assaulted a number of times, I have never reported these to police, due to the fact that the first time I tried to make a complaint, the young constable smirked and said "it's your job, he paid you"

Payment for a service does not imply consent or that they can do whatever they like.

I have had plain clothed officers book me, turn up for a service and offer me as much as \$500 to perform what is deemed an unlawful service. I see straight through them. Some women feel pressured to say yes, they may do it as a one off because their rent is due or something. But boom, they are entrapped and charged. How am I to feel safe and protected by police when this is what I have to fear.

Police should be here to protect us, we are people too, we matter.

All of this creates isolation and mental health issues, anxiety, ptsd. Even if not doing anything wrong, I am in fear of the police. I feel like a criminal, when I am not.

Removing police powers from sex work will put us in a position to build trust and to feel more at ease to report crimes if they happen.

In regards to work place health and safety, I have 3 monthly health checks, there is no law for me to do this, but this is a responsible, common sense approach for my business, my health and my clients health. Sex workers are more informed and diligent in regard to their sexual health than the general public. I will also refuse services to people who present with a possible health issue, educate them and direct them to the appropriate health professional to see. There are people in the general public who've never had a sexual health check. This blows my mind.

I support that respect inc be facilitators in the education of workplace health and safety for sex workers and to liaise with for consultation in the implementation process and structure of what work place health and safety measures are required.

Decriminalisation for me means I can work safely, I can have police protection, I can't be discriminated against. I don't have to live in fear of police or my real estate or my bank finding out how I make my money. I can apply for loans, hopefully be able to buy a house to call my own. It would make me feel an accepted part of society and the community.

I support a commencement date on or before the first of July 2024. I feel that we have waited far too long for this. The sooner the better.

Thank you for considering my submission

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

(Harley Roze)

email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]