

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

**Submission No:** 130  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
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**Attachments:**  
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024  
**Date:** Friday, 8 March 2024 7:44:02 AM

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Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 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

To whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED] and I have been a Sex Worker for 33yrs. In that time I have seen legislation that has criminalized the innocent, leaving industry participants choosing between their personal work safety and working in a legal framework that for the most part has never considered the lives and working lives of Sex Workers, much less having liaised with Sex Workers prior to drafting legislation in Qld where I am based. Until now. Nonsensical, impractical and ill-advised. Queensland has much catching up to do with respect to Decriminalization when compared to the now longstanding Decrim model in NSW and other States and Territories throughout Australia and our counterparts across the ditch in NZ. Under a decrim framework Sex Workers feel heard, safe, respected and supported, making it easier to follow a framework that assists us with advertising, working with others and other methodologies to increase safety, working conditions and income. Removing the current licensing system in favor of a Decriminalized model helps remove stigma and criminalization that further perpetuates a need to choose between working safely or as a criminal. An offence is only an offence if a law is broken and the current legal structure has people offending against laws that make no sense, hold no basis in the realities of the industry and force many of us to break current laws as they stand. Current fears for our safety is alive, well and long standing - being afraid to report crime, being fearful of criminal charges or arrest, stigma and discrimination. We have had enough of the current, long-standing and broken system we work under.

The new Bill is long overdue, however exciting for all Qld Sex Workers and those whom travel to work periodically in Qld. A framework that is necessary and will promote safety, pride within the industry and for the many types of Sex Work under that umbrella term.

On the behalf of all Sex Workers, our clients, families and allys we thank you for your consideration and the process and work that Sex Workers, Respect Inc, Decrim Qld, Qld Health, legislators and all involved in this timely and involved process have worked through and continue to. Changing to a Decriminalization model is something that has gone down in history as a positive change in the places it has been approved and administered. It's a model that works and continually demonstrates as such.

I wish not for my personal name and contact details to be used and to remain anonymous, however I am happy for my thoughts and words here to be used if necessary publicly,

Thank you for considering my submission

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Ph: [REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]