

Abortion Bill Monday, 3 September 2018 3:45:45 PM

Dear Members of the Queensland Parliamentary Health Committee,

I'm writing to you to urge you to vote down the recent bill that was tabled in parliament to change the abor ion laws in Queensland. A friend of mine recently gave birth to a perfectly formed baby girl at only 33 weeks of gestation. This baby easily survived and is thriving. If this bill passes, babies older than this little one, right up to full term in fact, can be aborted/killed for even 'social circumstances' (Part 2, Section 6). Surely, this is not something that a Health Committee can support. A recent YouGov Galaxy poll determined that over 60% of Queenslanders are opposed to allowing abortions after 13 weeks gestation, and 75% agree that abortion actually harms women's health. The bill allows no say for fathers who wish to keep their children, but conversely, if a mother wishes to keep her child and a father does not, he must still pay child support. I'm sure you will agree, this is grossly unfair.

The bill says nothing about informed consent - women need to know the possible impacts, and what the process actually involves. This new law does not offer any penalties for clinics that do not follow proper informed consent recommendations. I'm sure the majority of the population has no idea what is actually involved in ending the life of a baby in utero, or of the risks it poses to the mother. This proposed bill actually does more to erode the rights of women than it does to protect them.

I ask that you please do all you can to make sure this barbaric, or at the very least, questionable bill does not pass into law. Thank you of your time.

Kind regards, Jacqui Halpin