

# Dr Elizabeth A. Hampson

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4 September 2018

The Hon Kate Jones  
Member for Cooper  
Qld Parliament

Dear Minister

I write to comment on the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018. I have been a Doctor for 33 years, 30 of those practising Anaesthesia.

1. The death of an infant post-22 weeks conception requires that the birth is registered and a funeral is held. Counselling and support must be made available for all women in this situation, all of whom are vulnerable. How will the Public Health system supply and sustain this support?
2. At what stage of the termination process will a normal healthy post-22 week viable infant be killed, before or after delivery? Who will administer that lethal injection or mechanical force? Specialist Doctors will need to be responsible for inducing labour and facilitating delivery. Will there be an area of Birthing Suite set aside, or a special unit built? As the procedure will be decriminalized Qld Health may be obliged to provide this service.
3. How will access to Qld Health services be determined for termination in early pregnancy? Will there be abortion lists in Public Operating Theatres? Who will staff them? How will women be referred and assessed preoperatively in a timely fashion?
4. Will Doctors and Nurses employed by Qld Health be allowed to be conscientious objectors? Will their jobs be threatened if they will not facilitate the Termination lists? This may be a particular concern in smaller hospitals. Anaesthetists are needed for most Termination related procedures. I would never wish to be part of Termination procedures. I no longer work in the Public system.
5. In an era where thousands of couples go to great lengths to have a family could our wealthy society not support women to carry pregnancies for adoption if they chose?

Kate, I want to be part of a society that values life for all but particularly our most vulnerable women and unborn children. I have never met a Doctor who enjoys the pain and suffering of their patients.

The Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 is poorly considered and does not do any of us as citizens of Qld justice.

Please vote against the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018.

Yours faithfully  
Dr EA Hampson

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