Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Comr

From:
Sent: Tuesday, 4 September 2018 11:03 AM

To: Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence

Prevention Committee

Subject: Re: Submission - Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018

Categories: Submission

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am advised that the above Bill has been referred to the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee (the committee) for detailed consideration; and that submissions in relation to the Bill can be made to the Committee up to 12pm on 05 September 2018.

I endeavoured to make a submission a short while ago via the 'online submission platform'. However, after completing all sections, I was not able to lodge the submission – i.e. the 'submit your submission' link on page four of the document did not respond to my key strokes. Accordingly, I ask that you accept the content below as my submission in the matter:

"It is my understanding that if the Bill were to pass Parliament, it would allow the legal approving of abortions for any reason at any stage; and force hospitals (including religious-affiliated) to end a life; and remove their ability to consciously object or deny the procedure. An unborn baby has brain activity that can be detected after eight weeks; and existing laws have well served to appropriately balance the medical and health needs of a pregnant woman and that of protecting yet-to-be-born human life.

I believe in the sanctity of human life. The Deputy Premier's proposal to de-criminalise the performing of abortions in circumstances which are currently illegal is against what I believe law-makers should consciously take every effort to protect – i.e. the lives and opportunities of the most vulnerable. I cannot think of any more vulnerable being than a healthy human foetus at risk of having their opportunity at life ended based on the belief that it should be an individual women's right to choose.

Australian women have ready access to contraception to effectively control the risk of unwanted pregnancy. It should fall to adults to take responsibility for decisions made which lead to pregnancy. A State which purports to care about all individuals and laws that are meant to protect life and property for all citizens should not sanction the taking of an unborn life primarily based on the personal choice of the adult carrying the child.

Queensland law does not allow other individuals to terminate human life based on personal expediency. An unborn baby should not pay the ultimate price of a life denied because of an expedient personal choice of an individual who decides that a child is not wanted. I submit that the proposed Abortion Bill does not ensure an appropriate balance between caring for the health of pregnant women and that of protecting the human right to life of healthy foetuses; and provides no valid justification to make any changes to existing legislation controlling the act of abortion in Queensland. I ask that the Committee find in favour of the future human life of healthy foetuses."

Sincerely,

Ian Patterson