



**Subject:**  
**Date:**



[eform](#)

Abortion Law Reform (Woman's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016  
Friday, 24 June 2016 9:11:08 PM

---

Please consider this submission to the Abortion Law Reform (Woman's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016.

Adequate provision for the procurement of a surgical operation on, or medical treatment of, a mother and unborn child by a medical professional currently exists in the Criminal Code 1899 s282.

This ensures that the procedures are carried out to avoid “serious danger” to the mother’s life or her physical or mental health enabling an abortion to proceed on these grounds by the determination of the medical professional.

The removal of s224;s225 and s226 will remove protections afforded to both mother and unborn child as they are legislated to prevent the procurement of an abortion by a mother or other persons under their own volition without the consultation or involvement of a medical professional.

It is to be noted that chapter 22 - Offences against morality contains these sections and for good reason. Any decision to terminate a pregnancy should be under the guidance and counsel of medical professionals to determine the physical and mental risk involved to the mother and to enable the discussion of any moral conflict that may be of consequence to the mothers future wellbeing.

The Criminal Code 1899 s313 recognises the unborn child's legal right to life and any removal of these rights as is proposed by this bill is against the provision of existing law and would result in diluting the rights of the unborn child.

I oppose this bill on the grounds that it will remove protections presently afforded to the health and wellbeing of both the mother and unborn child and not put in place any further safeguards.

Regards,  
Mark Ritson

