

Subject: I urge you to advise MPs to oppose Rob Pyne's abortion bill for both moral and practical reasons

Dear committee,

I would like to present my submission to you concerning the Abortion Law Reform Amendment Bill 2016, tabled by Cairns MP Rob Pyne, which would decriminalise abortion and allow babies to be murdered for any reason up to birth.

I would first like to note that a Galaxy Poll conducted in Queensland just a few weeks ago shows that the majority of Queenslanders do not believe that abortion law should change. The poll asked voters about their views on abortion and found that from every angle more Queenslanders opposed the provisions in Rob Pyne's bill than supported them.

In fact, the final question explicitly asked voters whether they would be more or less likely to vote for their MP if that MP voted to decriminalise abortion. The result indicated that MPs who vote for such legislation can expect a six percent swing against them at the next election:

http://www.abortionrethink.org/images/What_Olders_Really_Think_About_Abortion.pdf Clearly, decriminalising abortion is not something that the voters of Queensland want.

I mention this poll in my submission because one of the committee's terms of reference is to consider 'the need to modernise and clarify the law (without altering current clinical practice), to reflect current community attitudes and expectations.'

I trust that these poll findings will compel you to report that community attitude is decidedly against changing the law. I therefore hope your report will advise MPs not to support Rob Pyne's bill both on moral and practical grounds.

Olive Woodford

Diane and Rick Whittle

Greg and Suzan Smith