

From:
To: [abortionlawreform](#)
Subject: Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Tuesday, 28 June 2016 8:22:57 PM

28 June 2016
Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee,
Parliament House ,
George Street,
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Committee

Re: Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016

I wish to state my strong opposition to the bill introduced by Rob Pyne MP.

When Rob Pyne introduced this bill into parliament I heard him being interviewed on radio. At the time he stated that his lack of detail and the wide open nature of the bill, which did not spell out health conditions for whom this would be available nor recommend the number of medical practitioners who would be required to make a recommendation that abortion was necessary, etc, was something which he expected to be debated in Parliament and to be clarified and amended before it was voted on. He said he was just introducing the bill so it could have considerable work done on it before being voted on. To me that seemed like a poorly thought out plan which would enable a very poor piece of legislation to pass through the parliament, which seems to be what is happening!

It horrifies me that what we have seen introduced in Victoria and Tasmania is about to happen here unless those provisions are included first.

Late term abortion must be one of the most unnecessary and cruellest things I can think of. If a woman really is in risk then surely medical practitioners should be able to recommend such an abortion.

However, if this is not the case we must take into account the ability of the technology and science which has developed in recent years and which enables even very premature babies to survive. Abortions, especially late term ones, for reasons other than this, especially when they are for social or economic reasons, should not be encouraged by slack legislation. Today, when premature babies can survive even when born at 24 weeks, why do we allow termination of pregnancies in the same time frame or later?

We know that unborn babies feel pain. We know that the methods used to abort a child can inflict tremendous pain on the baby and emotional pain on the mother.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights – Article 3 declares “Everyone has the Right to Life” International Convention on the Rights of the Child reads, “The child by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth.”

I appeal to you not to proceed with this legislation.

Barbara Fell

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