

**From:**  
**To:** [Abortion Bill](#)  
**Subject:** Rob Pyne"s Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016  
**Date:** Monday, 19 September 2016 7:11:42 PM

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Dear Committee Members,

Please find below my submission to the enquiry into the Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016.

I hope the committee appreciates that if passed into law this bill would strip preborn babies of all legal protection against those who wish to take their lives, and they could be killed for any reason whatsoever right up to the day of their birth.

The provision in the bill for two doctors to 'sign-off' before killing a baby more than 24 weeks old is, in fact, no protection at all, because both doctors may be abortionists and must only 'reasonably believe the continuation of the woman's pregnancy would involve greater risk of injury to the physical or mental health of the woman than if the pregnancy were terminated.' Malpractice would be almost impossible to prove when the bar is set this low and, in practice, abortionists will be free to kill preborn babies of any age just as if there were no 'safeguard' at all.

Furthermore, there is evidence to suggest that when abortion is decriminalised, as this bill proposes, late term abortion rates substantially increase. For example, when Victoria decriminalised abortion in 2008, the number of late-term abortions surged by 600% (<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/aborted-babies-being-left-to-die-20101006-167u0.html>).

I hope the committee will report on the likely increase in the number of late-term abortions in Queensland if this bill were to be passed.

I also hope that the committee will go further and ask MPs to consider whether condemning many more babies to the abhorrent and barbaric practice of being dismembered while still alive is something they wish to happen.

In fact, if MPs do want to change the law, then they should ban this barbaric practice. To date, twenty-three US states to-date have banned late-term abortions; and it is about time that we followed their example, because in the 21st century abortion is shaping-up as the human rights abuse issue equivalent to slavery in the 19th century.

Abortion law in Queensland does indeed need to be modernised, but not in the way that this bill suggests.  
Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Karen Mitchell