

Inquiry Secretary
Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention
Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

18 September 2016

To The Committee,

RE: Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016.

I support the decriminalisation of abortion in Queensland, and the repeal of sections 224, 225 and 226 from our 1899 Criminal Code.

I believe that the proposed reforms laid out in this new bill will address the Committee's concerns with a straight repeal of our Criminal Code statutes.

To that end, I support the *Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill*, in conjunction with the *Abortion Law Reform (Woman's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill*.

In addition, I urge the Committee to recommend that both bills are debated and voted on together as a package on the floor of parliament, to reflect the intent of the two pieces of legislation.

Queensland Abortion law is outdated and does not reflect contemporary social views, nor practice. I firmly believe women are entitled to determine for themselves whether or not they continue with a pregnancy. By undergoing abortions, women and their health care providers risk prosecution, protected only by case law. As such, I agree with the passing of both bills as a package.

Kind regards,

Raechel Oleszek.