

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Abortion Bill](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to proposed bill Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016  
**Date:** Thursday, 29 September 2016 5:35:08 PM

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Dear Committee

I am opposed to the bill before parliament - Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016

Statistics show that babies born premature have good and increasing chances of survival. In cases where a mother is unable to continue with a pregnancy for severe health reasons, attempts should be made to deliver the baby live rather than unnecessarily kill it. This is barbaric for both the mother and the medical staff involved and is not without long term psychological consequences, which have been well documented.

At:

24 Weeks: About 1/2 to 3/4 of babies will live.

25 Weeks: Up to 85% of babies will survive.

26 Weeks: 80% to 93% of babies born at this gestational age will live.

[REDACTED]

Additionally,

- The Act concentrates solely on abortion as a solution to unwanted pregnancy,
- does not seek to ensure counselling or alternatives for the mother
- ignores medical and psychological damage to women who undergo abortions
- fails to protect babies of a survivable gestation including full-term babies

The ACT states under

21 Abortion on woman more than 24 weeks pregnant

Note—

A failure by a doctor to comply with this section does not constitute an offence but may constitute behavior for which action may be taken under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Queensland)

This supports the current practice of abortion clinics carrying out abortions, without proper consultation by two independent doctors who care for the patient's welfare, to act unethically in furthering their business interests. It is not to the benefit of woman facing a very difficult situation. There are good independent counselling services for women who provide support rather than just one solution.

The patient protection clause is unprecedented in protecting the business of an abortion clinic. What other businesses can also demand protection? It is interesting to note that the Act seeks penalties for prohibited behavior in relation to an abortion facility but not for a doctor who has not followed the Act. Again, this Act favors an abortion clinic's business rather than the patient. This clause is unnecessary and has no basis in need.

I trust that the committee will look broadly at the bill and see how biased it is towards the needs of abortion clinics rather than the needs of women.

*With my regards*

*Patrice McKay*

