From:
To: Abortion Bill

**Subject:** Health [Abortion Law Reform] Amendment Bill submission

**Date:** Tuesday, 4 October 2016 12:51:13 PM

Inquiry Secretary

Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee

Parliament House

George Street

Brisbane Qld 4000

Further to my submission on the Abortion Law Reform [Women's Right to Choose] Amendment Bill supporting the decriminalisation of abortion in Queensland and repeal of sections 224, 225, 226 of the 1899 Criminal Code I note that the Committee has expressed some concerns.

The proposed reforms in this new bill will adequately address any concerns with simple repeal of the above sections of the Criminal Code and I strongly support the Health [Abortion Law Reform] Amendment Bill together with the original Abortion Law Reform [Women's Right to Choose] Amendment Bill.

The new bill will remove any uncertainty about who can perform an abortion restricted to a doctor or registered nurse carrying out the doctors instructions.

It also deals with a woman who or performs, consents to or assists with an abortion on herself, which clarifies the situation where a woman herself takes medication prescribed by a doctor to medically terminate her pregnancy.

The requirement for two doctors where a pregnancy is over 24 weeks should address any concerns about[ the extremely rare] case of late term abortions.

Consciencious objection by doctors and nurses is specifically safeguarded except in medical emergencies.

Safe zones will avoid any disturbance of public order and preserve the privacy of staff and patients.

This Bill will improve clarity for health professionals and avoid lengthy approval processes not in the interest of the patient.

Therefore I urge the Committee to recommend that both bills be debated and voted on together on the floor of Parliament reflecting the intent of the two bills and the views of the majority of Queensland citizens.

Yours sincerely,

Judy Andrews

