

Health (Abortion Law Reform)
Amendment Bill 2016

Submission No. 995
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From:
To: [Abortion Bill](#)
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Good Afternoon,

I wish to draw to the attention of the House my strong opposition to MP Rob Pyne's second attempt to weaken Queensland's abortion laws with the Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016. Following on from strong public rejection of Mr Pyne's first bill and the committee's recommendation that it fail, his second bill again disregards public opinion and global trends, allowing late term abortion for viable babies and adding exclusion zones which effectively limit free speech for doctors, nurses, hospital staff and the public.

This bill appears to contradict itself and disregards the seriousness of the issue it addresses. Whilst stating that abortions must be performed by a doctor the bill also allows women to perform their own abortion. It ignores community calls for independent counselling and protections for women. The first inquiry heard from medical experts that abortion is readily accessible under the current Queensland law, with around 10,000 per year performed and with no person ever being convicted under the law. Experts testified that the child in the womb is human, and deserving of human rights.

By rejecting this bill, I impore you to:

1. respect the health and rights of women and the unborn to be protected
2. respect the right of medical staff and the public to freedom of speech
3. reject this irresponsible bill which allows 'backyard' self-administered abortions
4. reject this anti-woman, anti-foetus, hastily and ill-conceived abortion bill.

Best Regards,

Damian Coles