

October 4th, 2016

Inquiry Secretary

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

Parliament House

Re: Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016

Dear Secretary,

I am writing to express my objection to Mr Pyne's proposed Bill to make abortion effectively freely available up until the moment of birth. Specifically, I object to Section 21 which allows for abortion after 24 weeks. Although the Bill suggests this can only occur with the signature of two doctors we know from current practice in Queensland that this will translate into abortion on demand up until the time of natural birth.

As a doctor who has delivered babies and cared for women in pregnancy both in Australia and abroad I am fully aware that human life begins at conception and hold the view that abortion is a great moral wrong. As a society I believe we have the means to offer women facing unplanned pregnancy the love and support they and their child needs to live happy and meaningful lives.

I would ask the parliament to reject this Bill.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Andrew Burke, MBBS (Qld), FRACP. DTMH

Brisbane, Qld