From: Shona Stromer

To: <u>Health and Community Services Committee</u>

Subject: Submission re Public Health (Exclusion of Unvaccinated Children from Child Care) Amendment Bill 2013

Date: Monday, 8 July 2013 12:37:50 PM

The Public Health (Exclusion of Unvaccinated Children from Child Care) Amendment Bill 2013 is going against the Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986 regarding discrimination on the grounds of medical record. This Bill cannot, lawfully, constitutionally and ethically, be passed. I am a mother of two children who has conscientiously, after many years of indepth research, decided to discontinue vaccinating my children. My daughter had been 'completely' vaccinated against a few listed diseases (according to the Childhood Immunisation program list) but still contracted Whooping Cough, which I was later informed by Queensland Health, that only 30% of the population who receives the Pertussis vaccine will be protected from contracting it. The public are indoctrinated to believe that vaccines will prevent the diseases they claim to, but there isn't a medical professional alive that will guarantee efficacy. Yet there are so many reported (and unreported) cases of vaccine injuries. Even the Australian Health website reports 'hand washing' as historically being the most effective way of preventing communicable diseases! My list of why I choose to not vaccinate would go on for days.

Regardless of the for and against arguments, Bills are regarding what is lawful. Vaccination records are Medical records which are lawfully private and should not be forced to be discussed in public arenas such as day cares, kindergartens and preschools. It is discriminatory to exclude children from child care regarding their religion, family arrangements, allergies (which causes many more restrictions of activities and inclusions than those who are unvaccinated) etc. so where is the basis that this amendment is any less discriminatory? This is a medical issue. This is a human rights issue. This is a constitutional issue. This is not a Bill that should be surreptitiously passed into parliament without thorough public scrutiny and debate. This Bill amendment will affect the family and economic structure of many families in Queensland due to parental debates on whether two incomes override their children's health and safety (because vaccine efficacy and safety is debatable) and the fact that one parent, usually the primary caretaker being the mother, will not be able to return to the workforce because her unvaccinated children are unable to attend child care. This will affect her ability to return to the workplace, her longevity in the workplace, her ability to afford education for her children, her future superannuation, her contribution to society etc. the list goes on. This will also affect the family's economic future, it affects the early education of Queensland children, which we all know is a major federal concern and it will affect the child care business, since they will undoubtedly lose business if this Bill is passed. I haven't even touched on what would happen to single parent families if the parent is unable to have their unvaccinated children enrolled at a child care centre to return to work. The dependency upon the welfare system would be even greater for single and partnered families with child care aged children than it is now. We have a right to not vaccinate. Until vaccines are offered in single dosage and are proven effective and safe, we do not have to use these medications. We do have

the right to educate our young children. We do have the right to have our children enrolled into child care without restriction on moral and ethical values and especially not on our medical histories. I plead for everyone on this committee to research this thoroughly, make wise, informed decisions and take all of these factors and perhaps so many more I have not scrutinised into account. Our parliament is about looking after Queenslanders and our state. This Bill amendment does not do this.

Sincere regards,

Mrs Shona Stromer

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