Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 90

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Submitter Comments:

Submission on Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024

I state my full support for the proposed Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024 for the reasons listed below.

- 1. The Bill does not impact in any way on the access to abortion since the abortion has already occurred. Its sole purpose is to ensure that, if a child is born alive after an abortion, that child is entitled to have its human rights fully protected under Queensland law.
- 2. The Bill merely proposes an amendment to the Queensland abortion law to make it clear that, if a live birth occurs after an abortion, the child will be treated no differently from any other child born in Queensland.
- 3. The Bill provides legislative protection to the guideline changes that have already been made in October 2023 by Queensland Health concerning live births after an abortion.
- 4. Data for the two years 2021, 2022 record that 90 babies were born alive after an abortion. These babies did not have a legislative right to be cared for and treated equally like all mother newborns.
- 5. The fundamental issue is that babies born alive after an abortion should be guaranteed the same human rights as all newborns.
- 6. To leave babies born alive after abortion to die without any care at all is a barbarism that is a shame on a State that is committed to preserving the human rights of all its citizens.

Colin Apelt

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