

Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 117
Submitted by: [REDACTED]
Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I am writing to you in support of the QLD Live Births Bill introduced to Parliament by MP Robbie Katter. Queensland babies who are born alive as a result of a termination of pregnancy procedure do not have a legal right to medical care, this is how - sadly - the law currently stands. That is unlike those born in other states including NSW and South Australia. In my opinion this is totally inconsistent and totally wrong. Babies born alive after a termination procedure have a fundamental right to care and to be treated equally like all other newborns - without discrimination. Queenslanders, whether newborn or old, must be properly treated and cared for, they have the right to access health services and to receive protection from cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment. Doctors also have a duty of care, already enshrined in South Australian and New South Wales legislation 'to provide medical care and treatment to a person born as a result of a termination ...no different to the duty owed to provide medical care and treatment to a person born other than as a result of a termination ' (Abortion Law Reform Act 2019 NSW). A similar provision is urgently necessary in Queensland to define that duty in law very clearly. It is vital that the QLD Live Births Bill is passed to codify these changes and ensure that basic human rights are upheld in our state. Thank you.