Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 130

Submitted by: ASHM Health

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Submitter Comments:



ASHM Level 3, 160 Clarence Street Sydney NSW 2000 ashm.org.au

13 May 2024

Health, Environment and Agriculture Committee Queensland Parliament 2a George St BRISBANE CITY QLD 4000 E: HEAC@parliament.gld.gov.au

Dear Members of the Health, Environment, and Agriculture Committee,

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

ASHM write in support of the submission by Children by Choice regarding the Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024.

ASHM Health is a peak organisation for health workers and medical professionals who work in HIV, blood borne viruses, and sexual and reproductive health. We partner and collaborate to enhance workforce capacity and strengthen health systems to address stigma and barriers to care.

ASHM supports the submission by Children by Choice which emphasises the importance of access to safe and legal abortion services, as well as the need for comprehensive reproductive health care and support services. ASHM believes that individuals facing difficult healthcare decisions should be provided with compassionate care and support, free from stigma.

Like Children by Choice, ASHM strongly opposes this amendment bill, recognising its potential to perpetuate stigma, restrict access to essential healthcare services, and infringe upon the autonomy of pregnant individuals. Instead of pursuing divisive legislative measures, ASHM advocates for upholding the principles established in the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018, which decriminalised abortion and ensured access to safe and legal healthcare for all individuals. By prioritising evidence-based approaches, respecting medical expertise, and protecting reproductive rights, we can foster a healthcare system that prioritises the well-being and autonomy of all individuals across Queensland.

Kind regards,

Alexis Apostolellis Chief Executive Officer ASHM