

## Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022

**Submission No:** 7  
**Submitted by:** Amy Stephens  
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### Submitter Comments:

As a trans woman who was born in QLD but who has been openly trans longer than I ever lived in QLD, it's vitally important to me that the QLD BDM accurately reflect who I am. I have legally changed my name and gender marker on every other document I own, and it presents a risk to me to not have the correct details in my birth certificate. It can call in to question my identity and my ID documents and it has been used to deny me services in the past because my IDs didn't perfectly match. There's also been extra hurdles that I have had to jump through that none of my friends here in Victoria had to deal with. I also deserve dignity in death, and having the right documentation will ensure that that is the case. It is beyond time for the BDM to be updated so that the gender marker can be changed without surgeries. Surgeries that are often way out of reach for trans people, who are more likely than anyone else to be discriminated against in the workplace - in part because of the ID issue. Surgeries that are not readily available in Australia - the only surgeon doing full gender confirmation surgery for trans women in Australia isn't even taking consultations his wait list is that long and, Surgeries that simply just aren't right for some trans people. I'm spending over \$25000 on my surgery and have to go overseas to do it, I shouldn't have to spend that much to be legally recognised. That could be a house deposit. Surgery should never be a barrier to legal recognition. And contrary to belief from anti-trans people, who specifically want to make trans peoples lives harder, there is no risk to cis women from trans women being able to update our birth certificates. That change only affects us and our life. We have been using women's spaces for decades with no issues. It's time QLD got out of the dark ages and aligned itself with (most of) the rest of Australia.