

Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022

Submission No: 12
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Submitter Comments:

I am a Queensland resident and an Australian citizen and I wish to support changes to birth certificates so trans people can make changes to their birth certificates without going through surgery. I believe all people who reside in Qld should be able to make choices about their gender and that their choices should be recognised in state government systems like birth certificates, irrespective if they have any form of surgery. Some points I think are particularly important include:

1. Supporting the flexibility of the non-binary options, considering introduction of an X marker for gender on birth certificates
2. Supporting the barrier to name change only being a statutory declaration from someone who has known you for at least 12 months. This is important to ensure applications are in good faith.
3. Support for making gender on birth certificates opt-in for new children. This is awesome and should be done. Just would have made life so much easier for so many people.

Ultimately I think this is about recognising trans and non-binary people for who they are. We need to acknowledge that they are the experts in their own lives and whatever medical intervention they choose to have, they know themselves best. Their gender identity should be reflected in their birth certificate if that is their wish regardless of the medical intervention they may or may not have. The identity on their birth certificate should reflect the reality of their lives.