

Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022

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Submitter Comments:

A person I knew was transgender, and clearly identified as female. She had changed her name, and moved from a small country town in Queensland to a larger coastal town in NSW. She was volunteering and contributing to her community, living in a flat on their own, creating a loving and supportive social group, and completing her transition. She was living under her chosen name, and living as she had always wanted to - as female. One day, while collecting their lunch from a bakery, such a mundane everyday occurrence she was killed in a tragic accident. Her body was returned to the small country town, and their family buried her under her dead name - a male name. She was not male. She was female. The family played "All Creatures Great and Small" at her funeral. I have never forgotten her, and the indignity of her funeral. This change, such a small change, would have made such a difference to all the people who celebrated her life, and mourned her. They still have unresolved grief, 20 years later. I respectfully ask the committee to allow this change, to have loved ones buried as they lived and died - in their true identity.