

## Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022

**Submission No:** 241  
**Submitted by:** Ronald Bennett  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public

### Submitter Comments:

To whom it may concern, I am a retired Military Veteran who served to protect Australians from all backgrounds and life destinations. I understand and support the concept of this Bill's idea but struggle with the current direction and how it will be implemented. I do understand that a small percentage of the population are born with their gender as indeterminate and that changing a Birth Certificate to reflect that is appropriate. What I do not think is appropriate is creating a whole new Birth Certificate with the person's new gender identity. We cannot change the date we are born or the gender that we start as. Genetically, historically and legally, they are set for life. I understand that for some of us, this can be painful and that they wish to start anew. Changing the Birth Certificate will not change anything, and the Bill reflects that. Can we serve everyone better by adding an extra section to the current Birth Certificate? This extra section will reflect the date the person transitioned and started anew. It would save the cost of re-issuing a new birth certificate and could be amended at any time by having a JP (or medical practitioner as designated by the Government), witnessing the required documentation and then submitting for adjustment. I do understand that this would require a re-issue of birth certificate for those who wish to have their gender changed but this would be a smaller problem than that of making a new certificate on top of the one that still exists (and cannot be replaced). Starting again, something we all wish for to some degree or another is something we should all strive for, but we cannot hide from our past if it is legally, historically and genetically bound. Especially if the legal side has local, national and international implications. I thank you all for your time and hope that this submission will be read and understood for what it is, a message that I do support the Bill in its concept.