

Senate Inquiry into the Health Insurance Amendment Bill (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion) 2013

Committee Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Andrew Stagg

Dear Secretary,

I wish to tender my support for the *Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion) Bill 2013*

Sex selection is not at all something we should be encouraging in a fair and just society. Our growing 'demand' for sex selection will lead to a increasing number of perfectly healthy and happy baby terminations. Babies that otherwise would have brought much joy and satisfaction to their parents and extended families. A just society should neither allow such terminations nor should it be involved in supporting or funding them in any way. The termination of a child because simply because it is the 'wrong' sex is something our society has always found repugnant. Just because some people 'want' something does not mean our state should feel compelled by these individuals to supply it.

Additionally allowing these publicly funded sex selection terminations to continue further reduces the capacity of an already strained Medicare system to fund more pressing medical conditions. Everyone agrees that our present health care system is financially strained and that as a result these shortcomings sometimes reduce both the quality of life and life expectancy of thousands of Australians. People who, were the funding available, would of course receive far better support. Allowing this funding injustice to continue permits a financial funding conflict to exist between the designer preferences of certain parents and the pressing needs of genuinely ill people.

I fully support this amendment and I urge the Senate to pass this bill.

Yours sincerely,

ANDREW STAGG