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To the Senate Committee

**Re. Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for certain types of Abortion) Bill 2013**

I understand that last month, Senator John Madigan introduced into the Senate the Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion) Bill that would remove Medicare funding for sex-selection abortions.

I would like to submit that I support this bill.

Aborting an unborn child solely on the basis of gender is not a medical procedure and should therefore not be afforded Medicare benefits. Medicare funding should be strictly limited to health procedures; taxpayers should not be funding decisions based purely on cultural or personal preference.

There are reports that sex selection abortions currently take place in Australia for those couples who have a cultural preference for boys or for "family balancing" by parents who want a child of a particular sex. Providing Medicare funding of sex-selection abortions, is contributing to the increase of this abhorrent act; the government should work to see a reduction in abortion.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my views

Isobel Gifford