
I write regarding the proposed Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion) Bill 2013.

I fully support this Bill, as summarised: "Amends the Health Insurance Act 1973 to provide that Medicare benefits are not payable for medically induced terminations carried on the basis of gender."

I find the proposed section 17A

"Medicare benefits not payable in respect of certain types of medically induced terminations.... a medicare benefit is not payable in respect of a professional service if:

...

(b) the termination is carried out solely because of the gender of the foetus."

to be entirely reasonable, sensible, and ethical.

It is totally objectionable, from a human rights and moral perspective for any foetus to be discriminated against "solely because of the gender", as outlined in the Explanatory Memoranda accompanying the Bill.

I hope all senators with vote in support of this Bill, which provides some measure of protection against discrimination according to gender.