

To: Senate Finance and Public Administration Committees
Re: Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for
Certain Types of Abortion) Bill 2013

Committee Submission

I wish to record my support for the stated Health Insurance Amendment bill. I believe this bill should be passed on the grounds that abortions carried out for the purpose of gender selection by parents are unethical and constitute a form of sexual discrimination. Worldwide, there is a clear bias against female children, and the United Nations has estimated that as much as 200 million women have been victims of abortion or infanticide because their parents preferred a male child.

Further, abortions carried out for the purpose of gender selection cannot be justified on the grounds of medical need, and therefore to provide Medicare funding for such abortions would be an inappropriate use of public money. The public health insurance system is intended to make medical care affordable for all Australians; to allow the funding of procedures which are medically unnecessary will increase the costs to the system and make care less affordable for those in genuine need.

Thank you for your consideration, and I urge you to recommend the bill be passed.

Timothy Bartlett