

***Health Insurance (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion) Amendment Bill 2013***

I support the proposed bill and ask that it may be approved by the Australian parliament.

There are already too many abortions performed in Australia (over 100 000 per year!) and some abortions performed for dubious reasons, such as choosing the sex of a baby, are abhorrent in a civilised society.

There are other choices for parents who do not want to keep a baby for whatever reason: fostering and adoption are obvious alternatives. Destroying a human being in Australia in the 21<sup>st</sup> century for convenience or personal choice reason is unconscionable. To allow Medicare Funding for such types of abortion would be shameful for a Government whose task is to care for all Australians, young and old with justice and equity.

New technologies must be used responsibly; there are ethical considerations to take into account with every new medical advance. Australia does not want to imitate the gendercide which is already occurring in countries such as China and India.

Rather than facilitating the abortion of 'unwanted' babies through Medicare funded abortions, our Australian government should provide free counselling and support for the pregnant mother and her family and ensure that every new life is truly welcomed in our land of freedom and opportunity.

Madeleine Goiran