



the
Presbyterian Church
of Tasmania

A submission re “Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion) Bill 2013”

March 30, 2013

Authorised by the Church & Nation Commission

Convener: Rev. Campbell Markham

We the Presbyterian Church of Tasmania strongly approve of the “Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion) Bill 2013”.

1. It is not acceptable to us that public Medicare funding can be used for the purpose of gender-selected abortions.
2. We are deeply disturbed by the prevalence of gender selection—with preference for a male child—amongst some ethnic groups in Australia, and the use of Medicare funded abortions to terminate female children.
3. We strongly disapprove of the use of Medicare funded gender-selection abortions to achieve so-called ‘family-balancing.’
4. We support the United Nations’ efforts to end the discriminatory practice of gender-selection, through implementing disincentives for gender-selection abortions. The Australian Government can support this campaign by refusing to fund gender-selected abortions in this country.