

23 April, 2013

Dear Senate Committee,

Re : Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion)

I would like to voice my strong support for the above bill. There should be no Medicare funding for medical procedures that are undertaken as a personal choice.

I was appalled to learn that in a country such as Australia, women can choose to abort a healthy baby solely on the basis of the gender of that child. Various minority groups have fought hard throughout the past decades to be regarded as equal. This equality should begin at conception.

I believe that it is the responsibility of the law to protect the unborn child given their vulnerability in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It is responsibility of the legislature to ensure that every child, irrespective of gender is afforded the basic human right of life.

Medicare funding should be strictly limited to health procedures; taxpayers should not be funding decisions based purely on cultural or personal preference. Aborting an unborn child solely on the basis of gender is not a medical procedure and should therefore not be afforded Medicare benefits. By providing Medicare funding of sex-selection abortions, the legislators are contributing to the increase of this abhorrent act. The government should work to see a reduction in abortions as they impact negatively both on the physical and emotional wellbeing of the expectant mother and others involved in this decision.

In summary, Medicare should only be funding medical procedures directly linked to the health of the individual. It should not be funding any procedures that reflect personal choice.