

The following is a submission concerning the *Exposure draft of the Paid Parental Leave Scheme Bill 2010*.

1. I would like to address the multiple clauses in the Bill set out to discriminate payment amounts based on a range of categories. These measures seem to only add to the already congested system of distributing government payments. Having a universal figure will ensure a more effective use of government funds.
2. The cost of childcare in Australia has become so uneconomical that many families have chosen to keep one parent at home while the other works to support the family financially. Sections 32 to 36 (work test) and sections 37 to 41 (income test) should be removed in order not to punish those above mentioned families who have chosen the parent care system.
3. There appears to be a loop hole allowing mothers to claim the payment post an elected abortion. This occurs due to the fact that once the pregnancy has reached 20 weeks the child if aborted will be classed as a 'still born' and still issued a birth certificate. It is simply ludicrous to promote any system where by an incentive can appear to be given for women opting to have late abortions. This section of the Bill must be amended to tighten the definition and prevent any interpretation whereby the government funds abortions.

I sincerely hope that any comments above concerning the Bill in question help to ensure a just outcome.

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