

I understand that there is currently a Senate Inquiry into the draft Paid Parental Leave Bill 2010 and I wish to offer the following submissions:

While we need to provide a society that is friendly to families and this may need to include providing financial assistance to stay at home mums, there does need to be fairness and equality.

- all mothers should be entitled to the same benefits whether they were employed up to the time of giving birth and so taking paid leave or whether they were unemployed at the time of having their child or already stay at home mothers with now an additional child to care for.
- There needs to be a tightening of the wording of the bill. At it stand it is conceivable that a pregnant woman may choose to have a late termination (after 20 weeks) and still be eligible for PPL. This is not right.
- There also needs to be a tightening of the wording so that a family does not receive the PPL and then place the child in subsidized child care. The money should only be given to mothers who are hands-on raising their children as it is meant to assist with the mother/child bonding and emotional stability of our future adults.

Thank you for this opportunity to contribute to this important debate.

Julie Borger