David Perrin

18 April 2013

Committee Secretary, Senate Finance & Public Administration Legislation Committee,

Dear Secretary,

SUBMISSION

<u>HEALTH INSURANCE AMENDMENT (MEDICARE FUNDING OF</u> CERTAIN TYPES OF ABORTION) BILL 2013

I write as a former Member of Parliament to express my SUPPORT for the proposals contained in the above bill.

With long experience of involvement with legislation, I believe this bill needs to be supported and I urge your committee to recommend that this bill be supported by the Senate as a whole.

My main reasons are-

- 1. The bill sets out a principle that sex selection abortions are wrong. This principle is supported by the United Nations in its 2011 report and by the Council of Europe also in 2011.
- 2. The great majority of Australians oppose sex selection abortions. This has been shown by public opinion research, polls and studies undertaken by Sexton Marketing Group, Melbourne University, and Galaxy polls.
- 3. Medicare funding for sex selection abortions should not occur. Medicare is provided for the benefit of health outcomes of patients and should not be used for social change.
- 4. Sex selection abortions are leading to gender imbalance wherever they are carried out. This is proven in China, India and Europe.
- 5. The evidence is that sex selection abortions are being carried out in Australia as evidenced by cases before medical tribunals and

- the abortion in Victoria of twin boys as reported in the Melbourne Herald Sun.
- 6. Because Medicare funding of abortion classifications are so obscure so as to mask abortion reasons and confusing these with miscarriage and genuine foetal deaths. I request that your committee recommend that the Medicare statistics reporting be changed to truthfully inform the community as happens in South Australia.

I believe that your committee should report to the Senate and therefore to the wider community, that this bill should be supported. I would be happy to provide any further information that your committee may require.

Yours Sincerely,

David Perrin