

July 20, 2009
John & Leonie Guilfoyle

Ms Claire Moore
Chair
Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

By E-mail: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator Moore

Re: Inquiry into Health Legislation Amendment (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009 and two related Bills

We are writing to communicate my support for Independent Midwives to receive Medicare funding, access to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and professional indemnity premium support.

As parents who have enjoyed the privilege of 2 homebirths, we are firmly convinced that out of hospital skilled midwifery care should be an essential choice for all families.

To deny access to this choice is to deny a basic right to childbearing families.

Denying independent Midwives access to Medicare funding, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and professional indemnity premium support also adds an undue burden to families in rural and bush communities in Australia.

Thank you for your prompt action.

Sincerely,
Leonie & John Guilfoyle