

I am concerned about this legislation effectively making it illegal to have a professional, insured midwife present at a homebirth. I believe that the Australian health system should be providing more support for homebirth and birth centres instead of increasingly pressuring women to have conventional hospital-based births.

It is very frustrating as a pregnant woman to find that it is easier to get an elective caesarean, at considerable cost to the Australian health system, than it is to have a natural birth at my place of choice, an option I believe would be good for me and many other women and also take pressure off the health system, freeing up hospital expertise for those people who truly need it instead of people like me who are having uncomplicated pregnancies and hopefully birth.

I am able to provide more information if required. Please advise me if this does not constitute a properly made submission.

Thanks

Allison Bambrick