

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of my brother and his partner who is ten weeks pregnant. I believe that, as a couple, they have made a careful and informed choice about planning to have a home birth. I am concerned to hear that there are potential changes to the legislation being considered which will make this option impossible in the future.

I firmly believe that forcing women to give birth in an environment which is not of their choosing could place undue psychological and emotional stress on both mother and baby. This is clearly an outcome that is contrary to ensuring the safety of those involved.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this proposed change. I am sure there are many avenues that can be pursued to lower the perceived risks involved in home-birthing and to allow the relevant government department to engage in defensible decision making. Conducting health assessments of women who make the choice to give birth at home could be one such option.

Warm regards,  
Jane

Jane McGeorge