

16th July 2009
Debbie Targett

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

I write with great concern and sadness in regards what effect the passing of the above bills will have on homebirth choices for all women.

From what I understand it will benefit those giving birth in hospital, but not those who would like to birth at home. This is because the intersection of this legislation with the national registration and accreditation of health professionals which will prevent homebirth midwives from registering and make it illegal for them to support a home birth. PLEASE, it is so important to include homebirth in this funding and indemnity arrangement.

I have had a homebirth in 2006 and I am pregnant planning another homebirth in October 2009. I loved my first birth, and the fact that I could choose where I birthed. I am a healthy woman and I don't want to take up hospital beds for women who need it. LET US BIRTH AT HOME. In New Zealand and the U.K women have a legislative right to choose homebirth. I support a system where all consumers are treated equally, with the same access to funding and the same insurance protection.

With passion and respect
Sincerely

Debbie Targett