

Dear Senator,

I am concerned at the Health Legislation Amendment (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009, the Midwives Professional Indemnity (Commonwealth Contribution) Scheme Bill 2009 and the Midwives Professional Indemnity (Runoff Cover Support Payment) Bill 2009, which are currently the subject of an Inquiry by the Committee on Community Affairs.

My son aged 3 and daughter aged 9 months were both born at home with a fully qualified, highly experienced midwife in attendance. From the moment we found out we were pregnant, to long after the birth of our children, this one midwife provided complete care for our family. My wife was a prime candidate for homebirth. She was fit, well, and both births were wonderful. Did our choice to employ a private midwife cost the "system"? No!

The considerable expense was all ours and I'd pay double to do it again.

It was a choice we had. The legislation stands to remove that choice.

Countless other letters will include the facts, figures, research and evidence that shows that homebirth should be an option available to all, so I'll leave you with this.

I don't burn incense, practice yoga, have a piercing, tattoo, dreadlocks, or wear tie-die. I'm a suburban dad, who works 7 til 7, pays lots of tax, yet my wife and I chose to have 2 home births. If we wished to do it again, this legislation will make homebirth a crime.

The only criminal act is the legislation itself. Surprise me and do the right thing!

Regards,

Christopher Gregson