

To the senate committee,

I have birthed both my children at home. There were no complications. I paid for the cost of medical attention myself, with no cost to the community. I am very concerned that I may be FORCED to go to hospital if I want to have professional care for another baby, simply because of an insurance issue that has not been catered for by the government.

I am also concerned that if women are not given the option to birth with professional care at home, that they may choose a more risky option and birth at home without adequate care.

I understand that the majority of women choose to birth in hospital, but this does not mean that those of us who choose to birth at home should be denied this right.

I request that you amend the legislation and provide professional indemnity insurance for independent midwives, and support this natural and caring form of birthing.

Sincerely,
Catherine Bailey