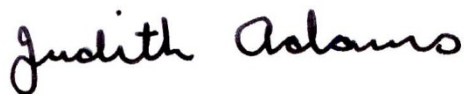
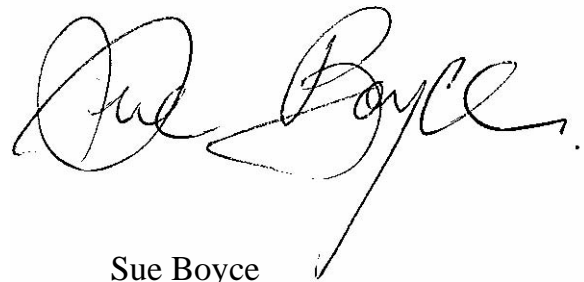


ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The Coalition Senators acknowledge the concerns of stakeholders regarding the Government's proposed amendment to the *Health Legislation Amendment (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009* and the *Midwife Professional Indemnity (Commonwealth Contribution) Scheme Bill 2009*. Significant concerns were originally raised about the affect of the amendment on the ability of Midwives to gain indemnity insurance and therefore be registered. The Minister has since given notice that the Government will withdraw the amendment relating to the *Midwife Professional Indemnity (Commonwealth Contribution) Scheme Bill 2009*. The Coalition Senators acknowledge the importance of an appropriate collaborative arrangement that provides for patient safety and confidence. Mothers-to-be and midwives have not been assisted by the Health Minister's numerous changes in policy direction and the Coalition will reserve the right to consider the regulations that define the nature of collaborative arrangements between nurse practitioners, midwives and medical practitioners.



Judith Adams
Senator for Western Australia



Sue Boyce
Senator for Queensland

