

Writing to your Local State MP

The best way to encourage your local State MP to vote against decriminalizing abortion is to write or to arrange to meet with your MP in person. You can find out your local MP's contact details here: <https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/members/current/list>)

There are many other ways to reach MPs and speak into the public square such as participating in rallies, writing letters to the newspaper, signing petitions and taking part in lobby groups. When deciding how you will act, always consider what potential your involvement may have for opening or closing the door to the gospel.

Here is a sample letter you can modify to send to your local MP. Note that details will may change quickly so check your facts before writing.

Dear Re: Abortion Law Reform

I sincerely thank you for your service of our community during your time in parliament. As a Christian, I pray for you as you undertake this very important and often difficult role, and I thank God for the work that you do.

I also ask you to vote against the legalisation of abortion when it comes before parliament.

I am concerned about the care and protection of the vulnerable in our community.

I know that abortion involves deeply complex, difficult and personal decisions. As a Christian, it is clear to me that we grapple with these issues in a world gone wrong, where we all, including myself, are responsible for failing to live out God's good design for loving relationships.

My concern is driven by the mercy, kindness and protection I have so abundantly received through Jesus' death and resurrection. Since our community is part of God's treasured creation, I desire to see his mercy, kindness and protection extended to all others with justice.

1. Firstly, I ask you vote against this Bill in order to protect women.

Women with an unwanted pregnancy or a child with major disabilities diagnosed in utero are in a very vulnerable position. They so often face enormous grief, loss of control

over their future, perhaps the loss of relationships, financial security, opportunities or employment.

Many women in this situation therefore feel a strong expectation to abort. Their choice is often very constrained and they may receive little help to work out life should they keep their baby.

There is also strong evidence of significant and extensive psychological harm associated with abortion.

Previous bills have proposed no regulation of abortion on demand, and have not recognised the significance of the decision for women or the harm inherent in abortion. They have not provided for the support of women who choose to continue their pregnancies in difficult circumstances. They have also included no safeguards to ensure that women are making a fully informed choice such as counselling independent of abortion providers and alternatives to abortion.

I would love to see, and would fully support, more services to offer help to vulnerable women and families faced with unplanned pregnancy.

2. Secondly, I ask you to vote against the legalisation of abortion in order to protect children.

Abortion involves the lives of two people. The foetus is a vulnerable person with no voice who deserves the care and protection of the law and every opportunity to live and be nurtured, regardless of stage of development, gender, background or disability status.

3. Thirdly, I ask you to vote against the legalisation of abortion in order to protect doctors, nurses and pharmacists.

Previous bills have provided inadequate protections for medical professionals who have a conscientious objection to performing abortions.

Thank you very much for considering my letter as one of your constituents. I do continue to honour and pray for you.

Yours Sincerely Your Name