



Honourable Yvette D'Ath MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
Minister for Training and Skills

In reply please quote: 3428940

30 SEP 2016

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
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Dear Mr ^{Neil} Laurie

Thank you for your letters of 18 and 30 August 2016 and 1 September 2016 to the Premier and Minister for the Arts enclosing petitions 2613-16, 2616-16, 2626-16, 2629-16 and 2630-16 regarding the Abortion Law Reform (Woman's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016 (the Bill) which have recently been tabled in the Parliament. In accordance with Standing Order 125, the Premier has asked me to respond to you about these petitions.

As you are aware, on 10 May 2016, Mr Rob Pyne MP, Member for Cairns, introduced the Bill into the Parliament as a Private Member's Bill.

The Bill has followed the normal legislative process, and was referred to the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee (the Committee) for examination and report back to Parliament. I note that the Committee's report on the Bill was tabled on 26 August 2016 and the Committee has recommended that the Bill not be passed.

When it is debated, Government Members of Parliament will vote with their conscience on the Bill, and will not be constrained by any political party direction on the matter.

I appreciate that the issue of abortion generates robust debate in the community, with strongly held points of view, and I have noted the opinion expressed in these petitions.

Yours sincerely

YVETTE D'ATH MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
Minister for Training and Skills