

House of Representatives

Supplementary Order Paper

Tuesday, 10 September 2019

Abortion Legislation Bill

Proposed amendments

Jan Logie, in Committee, to move the following amendments:

Clause 7

In *clause 7*, replace *new section 10* (page 4, lines 27 to 29) with:

10 Provision of abortion services

- (1) A qualified health practitioner may provide abortion services to any pregnant person.
- (2) A provider of abortion services must comply with any applicable standard created under **section 18(b)**.

In *clause 7*, delete *new section 11* (page 4, line 30 to page 5, line 2).

Clause 11

In *clause 11*, *new section 182(2)(b)*, replace “**section 10 or 11**” with “**section 10**”.

Explanatory note

This Supplementary Order Paper amends the Abortion Legislation Bill. This amendment would implement Option A of the Law Commission’s 3 models, by removing the statutory test for abortions after 20 weeks’ gestation. Such abortions only occur in exceptional circumstances, and medical professionals are invariably involved in supporting pregnant people to make their decisions. An additional statutory test is therefore unnecessary and creates a potential barrier to service provision. Option A was preferred by the majority of the health sector, including the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG), the New Zealand Nurses Organisation (NZNO), the New Zealand College of Midwives, and the Abortion Providers Group Aotearoa New Zealand (APGANZ). This option is most consis-

tent with a health-based approach to abortion care, recognises the importance of the pregnant person's bodily autonomy, and will minimise delays to abortion provision. Minimising delay is particularly important for abortions later in pregnancy, due to the higher risk of complications as pregnancy progresses. This amendment would also clarify that all providers must comply with standards under section 18(b).