

PETITION
to disallow Medicare funding for second trimester and late abortions

To the Honourable the President and Members of the Senate in Parliament assembled:

Whereas,

- item 16525 of the Health Insurance (General Medical Service Table) Regulations 2007 provides for the payment of Medicare funds for the performance of second trimester abortions, that is, **abortions as late as 26 weeks of pregnancy**;
- Medicare funds have, since 1994 **paid \$1.7 million for 10,000 second trimester abortions**;
- babies as young as 21 weeks gestation **have been born alive** and subsequently flourished;
- Medicare funds may be used to abort babies through the **partial birth abortion method** and also for abortion procedures in which the baby is born alive but **then deliberately left to die**; and therefore

we, the undersigned petitioners, pray that the Senate will disallow item 16525 of the Health Insurance (General Medical Service Table) Regulations 2007 and thereby stop the funding of second trimester and late abortions.

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Post to Senator Guy Barnett, 33 George Street, Launceston TAS 7250 by 1 September 2008
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