



# Premier of Queensland

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22 AUG 2013

BY: .....

For reply please quote: LJP/SB - TF/13/13945 - DOC/13/124776  
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21 AUG 2013

The Honourable Jarrod Bleijie MP  
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Dear Attorney-General

*Jarrod,*

Thank you for your letter of 20 June 2013 about the proposal to increase the coronial jurisdiction under the *Coroners Act 2003* (the Act) to include investigations of stillbirths that occur during labour.

I have taken note of the advice in your letter, including the information contained in the short issues paper regarding the current legislative context, the current review mechanisms, the approach in other jurisdictions and possible options in relation to this policy matter.

In particular, I note your advice, that it could be argued, that there is a public benefit in allowing a public inquest to be held into stillborn deaths where the cause of death is related to the health care provided to the mother and/or occurred during labour. While I agree it is imperative that the investigation and review of these sorts of deaths are as transparent and accountable as possible, I do think that, before undertaking further consultation on this proposal, further detailed consideration will need to be given

NP\_Sch3(2)(1)(b)

Given the sensitivity and potential implications of extending the coronial jurisdiction to include the investigation of stillbirths, I ask that, prior to you undertaking any further consultation on this issue,

I also understand that you have consulted with the Honourable Lawrence Springborg MP, Minister for Health, the Honourable Jack Dempsey MP, Minister for Police and Community Safety and the State Coroner on this issue.

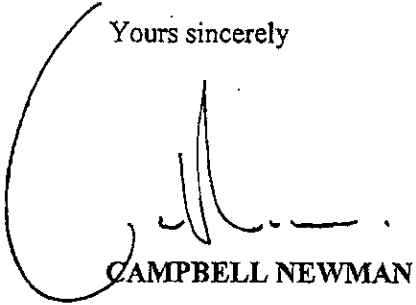
Deferred

NP\_Sch3(2)(1)(b)

Thank you

for your assistance with this important matter.

Yours sincerely



CAMPBELL NEWMAN