

**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 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 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 13 November 2008  
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