

Submission

I strongly support paid maternity leave as a mechanism for valuing women's roles in society, and as a way of providing women with job security and the right to fulfilling work in conjunction with child-rearing.

Women will never be equally represented at all levels of employment without access to paid maternity leave. Absence of this benefit has contributed to the enormous pay equity gap in Australia. It continues to especially disadvantage women in low-paid jobs who currently have a simple choice: work or family - but not work and family.

Let's get this country into the 21st century and make it a world leader for social inclusion, productivity, and education outcomes that build individual and societal capacity. Paid maternity leave will benefit all Australians.