

To whom it may concern

I strongly disagree with the idea of government funded Maternity Leave.

In this day and age, having a baby is totally a life style choice, a choice that should be made after giving thorough and all due thought to the consequences of having a baby.

Bringing children into this world is not a given right as most people may think, but a privilege that should not be taken lightly.

If people wish to bring children into this world as their privilege says they can, I believe that they must be able to take care of these same children by themselves and not think that they can rely on government (tax payer) sponsorship.

Offcourse there will always be the under privileged that get caught out or circumstances may change for others who do require assistance but the government is already helping these people out through various tax payer funded schemes.

The government (taxpayers) of this country already carry a huge burden without contributing further to it by people who think it is their right to have children and then think that they should receive taxpayer assistance.

If employees can arrange with their employers through various agreements or awards for Maternity Leave as part of their entitlements, then I fully agree with this and believe that this is the only way to go. It maybe needed that the government forms legislation to ensure that employers and companies take this on board.

Therefore I urge that a lot of thought be given before everyone gives in to warm fuzzy feelings and that the Productivity Commission does not recommend that the government (tax payers) fund any Paid Maternity Leave scheme.