

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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**Abortion decriminalised in Queensland. South Australia next?**

Last night the Queensland parliament passed a bill to decriminalise abortion. This essential health service now remains a crime in only two states: South Australia and New South Wales.

The South Australian Abortion Action Coalition congratulates politicians and campaigners who fought a long battle for this change. Women in Queensland can now legally access abortion on request up to 22 weeks' gestation. Safe access zones will ensure that women can access abortion services free from harassment and doctors who conscientiously object to abortion will be obliged to refer women to a medical practitioner who will provide the termination. Premier Palaszczuk, who supported the bill, said "This is an historic day for Queensland ... We now join other jurisdictions, both in Australia and around the world, in recognising termination as a health matter."

Abortion law in South Australia is outdated, inadequate and discriminatory and must be repealed so that health professionals can provide women with the best possible abortion care. South Australia was the first Australian jurisdiction to pass legislation to liberalise abortion law, but this half-century-old legislation is no longer fit for purpose. It is time to decriminalise abortion in South Australia.

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For further media information contact the SA Abortion Action Coalition (saac) at [saabortionactioncoalition@gmail.com](mailto:saabortionactioncoalition@gmail.com).