

## Media Release

### Abortion Decriminalisation Bill

**Adelaide, South Australia, 4 December 2018.** The South Australian Abortion Action Coalition (saaac) welcomes the Abortion Decriminalisation Bill to be tabled by Tammy Franks on Wednesday 5 December 2018. Saaac has been in discussion with MPs/MLCs from all parties in the lead-up to this bill which, if passed into law, will result in safe access zones and better services for rural and remote women.

The current abortion law has not been updated since 1969. It is outdated, discriminatory and obstructs South Australian women's access to new health care technologies, now available in every other Australian jurisdiction. Rural and remote women must currently travel significant distances, at financial and emotional cost, to access essential health care.

'This bill will bring abortion law into the twenty-first century and enable best abortion care into the future. Decriminalising abortion will alleviate abortion stigma and dignify women's experiences. Safe access zones will remove harms from women and their health care providers. Access to new technologies will remove geographical disadvantage,' Ms Brigid Coombe, saaac spokesperson, said.

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