

2 March 2021**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Historic Abortion Bill passes – abortion decriminalised in SA**

This afternoon the Legislative Council passed the Pregnancy Termination Act (2020), which was passed by the House of Assembly on the 18th of February.

Abortion will now be decriminalised in South Australia.

The South Australian Abortion Action Coalition (saaac) is thrilled with this news and thanks the parliamentarians from all sides who supported the bill.

South Australian law will now regard abortion care as health care. In so doing it will extend due respect, autonomy and compassion to abortion patients and their health-care providers.

The Parliament has sent the message to those requiring abortion that they are entitled to access appropriate and quality healthcare, no matter where they live.

saaac looks forward to the stigma of criminalisation becoming a relic of the past and to the positive impact this legal change will have on the future of sexual and reproductive health care in this state.

Quotes attributable to Associate Professor Barbara Baird (saaac co-convenor):

Abortion is healthcare and I am relieved that South Australian law will finally treat it as such.

Medical professionals can now bring compassion to the delivery of abortion care without the threat of the law.

This is especially significant for patients in rural and remote South Australia who have long waited for the removal of legal barriers to accessing the same abortion care as those living in Adelaide.

For media inquiries and further comments contact saaac via email:

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saaac is a coalition of medical, legal, academic, social justice and advocacy professionals and organisations who are committed to achieving the best quality abortion care in SA.
For more information visit: www.saabortionactioncoalition.com