TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

This petition of the undersigned draw to the attention of the House that:

Medicare provides rebates for Assisted Reproductive Treatment yet excludes rebates for medically necessary surrogacy despite altruistic surrogacy's legality within Australia.

With Medicare, couples pay \$3500 - \$5000 whilst surrogacy couples' non-rebated \$16,000 - \$18,000 per full IVF Cycle.

We ask the House to:

Direct the Minister for Health, The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, to make the following amendments:

- 1. Removal of 2.37.7 from the Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Regulations 2012:
- 2.37.7 Items relating to assisted reproductive services not to apply in certain pregnancy-related circumstances

Items 13200 to 13221 do not apply to a service provided in relation to a patient's pregnancy, or intended pregnancy, that is, at the time of the service, the subject of an agreement, or arrangement, under which the patient makes provision for transfer to another person of the guardianship of, or custodial rights to, a child born as a result of the pregnancy.

2. Removal of the following paragraph from Note T1.4 Assisted Reproductive Technology ART Services (Items 13200 to 13221) of the Medicare Benefits Schedule:

Medicare benefits are not payable for assisted reproductive services rendered in conjunction with surrogacy arrangements where surrogacy is defined as 'an arrangement whereby a woman agrees to become pregnant and to bear a chi/d for another person or persons to whom she will transfer guardianship and custodial rights at or shortly after birth'.

PRINCIPAL PETITIONER

Name: Melissa Delaware Signature:

Address: 69 James Josey Avenue Springfield Lakes QLD 4300

Email: mdelaware@bigpond.com Telephone: 0419 772 162

NO.	NAME	SIGNATURE

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