

**Fwd: Surrogacy Act 2008, Reproductive Technology Council & WACHS medical officer feedback**

Roger Hart [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, June 07, 2018 6:28 PM**To:** Strike, Maxine; Harris, Maureen

Hi Mo and Maxine please can you pass these comments on

Thanks

Roger

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Van Bockxmeer, John" [REDACTED]**Date:** 7 June 2018 at 5:48:13 pm AWST**To:** Roger Hart [REDACTED]**Subject: Surrogacy Act 2008, Reproductive Technology Council & WACHS medical officer feedback**

Good evening Professor Hart,

I am a rural generalist working for WACHS with an interested in patient safety, research and emergency medicine. After completing my ACRRM training I have decided to work here in the Pilbara region, you were a clinical tutor of mine at UWA! I am writing to please pass on comment/feedback to the Reproductive Technology Council.

I have observed close medical colleagues and family members struggling with the demands of managing a career, being in same-sex relationships and subsequent struggles with assisted reproductive technology in the state of Western Australia. I became aware that the act is currently being reviewed after the consultation period.

Where possible may I please suggest our state align with other jurisdictions and develop contemporary legislation which will serve us in a non-discriminatory manner for many years. Some examples I would consider worthy of consideration include the following:

- A similar 'high court' application offering legal protection for the arranged parents and surrogate as is practiced in South Africa.
- Revision of the definition of an eligible couple to include two persons regardless of gender identity, as would be supported by the West Australian public following changes to marriage equality laws.
- A positive roadmap toward commercial surrogacy arrangements in Western Australia over the next 5 years. This reduce the global ethical burden of overseas arrangements, improve health safety for infants born to Australian intended parents and utilise West Australia's well-established and resourced private healthcare network and research, resulting in positive benefits for the state as an early adopter of reproductive technology.

Many thanks for your support and for continuing to be an advocate for West Australian patients.

Kind regards,

**John van Bockxmeer**

District Medical Officer, ED

Hedland Health Campus

WA Country Health Service

6/12/2018

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