

Fair Agenda Media Release

11 October 2018

LNP voters in key seats back abortion laws: new polling

LNP voters in the key electorates of Surfers Paradise and Currumbin overwhelmingly support proposed new abortion laws, new polling by Fair Agenda shows.

Released today as the Queensland LNP announces it will move to a conscience vote on the *Termination of Pregnancy Bill*, the polling shows majority support for the legislation amongst LNP voters in the two electorates. It follows recent statewide polling showing 71% of Queensland voters support decriminalisation of abortion.

“The numbers are clear. Voters in Surfers Paradise and Currumbin overwhelmingly support decriminalising abortion and the laws recommended by the Law Reform Commission,” said Renee Carr, Executive Director of Fair Agenda.

“The vote is expected to be tight, and these MPs could end up with the deciding vote. This polling makes it crystal clear they have the support of their electorate to vote yes.”

“This polling shows the majority of LNP voters do not support the party’s position up until this point: that current laws are sufficient and do not need to be changed. In fact, more than half of voters in both electorates would be less likely to support an MP that held to the LNP’s party position.”

“This vote is about compassionate healthcare, patient dignity, and ending the harm the current system does to rural Queenslanders.”

“This polling shows the majority of Queenslanders will back MPs who support access to safe and legal abortion services.” said Ms Carr.

“It’s clear the majority of Queenslanders expect their MPs to support legal abortion care and to respect a women’s right to decide the outcome of an unwanted pregnancy.

“In the past ten years Australians have benefited from important reproductive healthcare reforms made possible by pro-choice champions across both sides of the aisle. We hope that the same will be true in Queensland.”

Key poll data:

Surfers Paradise

- 75.7 percent of LNP voters and 75.5 of voters support making access to abortion legal in Queensland in line with Law Reform Commission recommendations
- 52.8 percent of LNP voters and 61 percent of voters said they would be less likely to vote for an MP who says the current laws are sufficient, and do not need to be changed.
- 89.5 percent of LNP voters and 89 percent of voters said women and girls should be protected from people harassing and intimidating them as they enter reproductive healthcare clinics.

Currumbin

- 61.1 percent of LNP voters and 71.9 of voters support making access to abortion legal in Queensland in line with Law Reform Commission recommendations
- 43.7 percent of LNP voters and 57.6 percent of voters said they would be less likely to vote for an MP who says the current laws are sufficient, and do not need to be changed.
- 84.4 percent of LNP voters and 87.8 percent of voters said women and girls should be protected from people harassing and intimidating them as they enter reproductive healthcare clinics.

In both electorates more than two-thirds of voters support proposed provisions specifically relating to access until 22 weeks in pregnancy.

MEDIA CONTACT: Renee Carr, Executive Director, Fair Agenda 0435 597 976