



Mr Zac Cannell
FTMen-SA

Email: ftmen-sa@hotmail.com

Dear Mr Cannell

Thank you for your contribution and advocacy on the range of bills that our State Government proudly introduced after asking the South Australian Law Reform Institute to look at all South Australian law to identify any instances of discrimination against members of our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) communities.

The following bills were passed last year:

- *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration (Gender Identity) Amendment Bill*
- *Relationships Register Bill*
- *Statutes Amendment (Surrogacy Eligibility) Bill*
- *Statutes Amendment (Gender Identity and Equity) Bill*
- *Adoption (Review) Amendment Bill*

On 23 May 2017, our Government will bring the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration (Gender Identity) Amendment Act 2016* ('the Amendment Act') and the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration (Gender Identity) Variation Regulations 2017* ('the Variation Regulations') into operation.

The Amendment Act repeals the *Sexual Reassignment Act 1988* and amends the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1996* ('the Act') to provide for a simpler, more direct and less invasive process for people to change their registered sex or gender identity on the formal record.

Following consultation with the LGBTIQ communities, with the medical profession and with the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, the regulations have been drafted to support the amended *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1996* to -

- provide for new options of 'non-binary' and 'intersex/indeterminate/unspecified' to be recorded on the Birth Register, in addition to male and female;

- specify a minimum period of counselling of six months or the completion of at least three 45 minute sessions for a sex or gender change not involving other medical treatment;
- reinforce the confidentiality of historic information about a person's previous sex or gender identity by specifying those persons or bodies able to access that information;
- remove the requirement that the sex of the child be recorded on the Birth Register where the sex of a child is indeterminate; and
- make a range of consequential changes and set fees for applications to the Births Register.

Our Government remains committed to achieving equality for all South Australians and the commencement of these changes is an important step in reaching this goal. This cannot be achieved without the support and input of individuals like yourself and your organisation and without the voice of our LGBTIQ community.

Thank you for your tireless efforts and contributions throughout both the consultation process and legislative process. We look forward to continuing to work with you on the issues that make a difference in the lives of all South Australians.

Yours sincerely



Jay Weatherill
PREMIER

18/5 / 2017



Ian Hunter MLC
**MINISTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY,
ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**

22/5 / 2017



Katrine Hildyard
ASSISTANT MINISTER TO THE PREMIER

22 / 5 / 2017