To the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee (SARC),

I believe the No Jab/ No Pay/ No Play legislation is discriminatory toward my daughter and my family. Please read my story below:

Following in her brothers footsteps my daughter, Mahlu Emond, began 3-4 year old kinder at the beginning of this year, 2015. Mahlu settled in well, has made some strong friendships and adores her Kinder teachers. I have received confirmation from our local council that her place has been approved for 4-5 year old kinder next year and we were confident that it would be a smooth transition despite longer days.

I am devastated to hear of The No Jab/ No Pay bill proposed by the Federal government and believe it is discriminatory toward low income families such as myself by excluding Family Tax benefit A and childcare subsidies from families whose children have not been vaccinated. The kinder fees for 2016 will be $500 per term and with the government subsidy granted would have made them much more affordable at $250 per term. This bill would have them stay at $500 per term, which will bring unjustifiable hardship for our family.

The No Jab/ No Pay/ No Play bill proposed by the Victorian Government adds further to this discrimination by actually refusing access to 4-5 year old kinder for my daughter all together. Not only does this proposed legislation discriminate it is also unlawful, for the following reasons:

1. Informed consent. Informed consent is written into the Governments Vaccine Handbook stating "For consent to be legally valid, the following elements must be present: It must be given voluntarily in the absence of undue pressure, coercion or manipulation." I have a nursing degree, have done my own research and feel that the risks are too great when it comes to vaccination for my children. This bill is manipulative, coercive and flawed in its attempt to increase vaccination rates.

2. Right to refuse medical treatment/ procedures. Every family has the right to choose the medical care that best fits with the health philosophy of their family. For our family we choose to
care for our health by eating organic unprocessed food, consult our Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine, and use Osteopathy and Homeopathy in the prevention and treatment of illness and disease. We consult with our Dr of western medicine when there is something needed in his area of expertise.

3. Right to privacy. If this bill were passed into legislation our sheer absence from Kinder would alert the kinder community to our conscientious objection to vaccination. This is private family information.

Along with the discriminatory and unlawful nature of this legislation I am heartbroken that my daughter will not be welcome at the kinder she has attended for the last 8 months and have no idea how I will break this information to her.

Thank you for reading my submission and I welcome being able to contribute to the debate on this very serious issue.

Sincerely,
Kylee Baker

Mother of 2 beautiful healthy unvaccinated children
Registered Nurse
Doula