

Exposure draft of Health Practitioner Regulation National Law 2009 (Bill B)

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To NRAIP 16/7/09 08:21PM

I am writing because I oppose the proposed conditions of registration,

(ii) that the registered health practitioner must not practise the health profession unless professional indemnity insurance arrangements are in force in relation to the practitioner's practice of the profession.

This will effectively make it illegal for midwives in private practice to attend homebirths, since professional indemnity insurance is not available to them (and has not been since 2001). I suggest that the Bill be amended to exempt private midwives attending homebirths from requiring professional indemnity insurance. Without such an exemption, many women like myself, who prefer to give birth at home with a care provider of their own choice, will be unable to do so.

Dr Tamara Shatar.