# MAKING A SUBMISSION TO THE AUSTRALIAN LAW REFORM COMMISSION

THE REVIEW OF AUSTRALIA'S SURROGACY LAWS
JUNE 2025



## Writing a submission to the Australian Law Reform Commission

The **Australian Law Reform Commission** (ALRC) is reviewing Australia's surrogacy laws.

You can read more about the review and subscribe for updates.

The ALRC must provide a final report to the Attorney-General by 29 July 2026.

The <u>Terms of Reference</u> guide the Review and provide the 'recipe' or parameters which the ALRC must follow.

#### **Issues Paper**

The ALRC is seeking submissions in response to an <u>Issues Paper</u> until 11 July 2025. This is first opportunity to make a submission.

The ALRC provides some guidance about making a submission.

You can make a public, de-identified submission which will be published on the ALRC website, or a confidential submission that will not be published.



There is no right or wrong way to write a submission.

The more heartfelt, the more powerful.

Sharing your story is a powerful way to influence change and let the Commissioner know what you think about Australia's surrogacy laws. You can share as much of your story as you are comfortable. Real-life stories can help the Commissioner make recommendations that reflect the reality for everyday Australians.

There are 27 questions in the Issues Paper. You can choose to answer all of them, or only a few. The most important question to answer is **Question One**, which asks for your personal experience of surrogacy in Australia or internationally.



If you only answer one question, make it Question One.

#### **Making a Submission**

You can download a <u>template Submission</u> to get you started. Make sure to remove the highlights, delete any questions you do not wish to answer, and change the name of the document before you submit it.

I will publish my submission on my website, but it will not be available until late June.

Start writing your submission as soon as possible.



### Submissions must be received by the ALRC by Friday 11 July 2025

Some resources that might assist in developing your ideas are listed below. These are articles written by me and are by no means the only view to consider:



What does best practice, ethical surrogacy look like?

Best Practice & Ethical Surrogacy

Should we introduce compensated surrogacy?

<u>Surrogacy & Financial Compensation</u>





How could surrogacy matching services operate in Australia?

Regulating Surrogacy Matching Services

How can we make parentage orders easier?

<u>Pre-Birth Parentage Orders</u>





What happens when intended parents go overseas for surrogacy?

<u>The Consequences of Criminalising Commercial Surrogacy</u>

My submission to the NSW Surrogacy Law Review





And finally: My Vision for Surrogacy in Australia

Get writing now!

#### REMEMBER!



All submissions to the Review that are from your lived experience are valid and important.



Write from the heart.



You don't need to know all the answers.



If you have completed your family, your submission could help to change the future of Australian surrogacy for hundreds or thousands of intended parents, surrogates and person born via surrogacy.

Your community is relying on you.



This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to influence real change to surrogacy in Australia.



Share the Review with other community members – including extended family and friends who have been involved or impacted by surrogacy, or would like to grow their family through surrogacy.



## Don't forget the deadline! Friday 11 July 2025



I do not have capacity to read other people's submissions. I'm too busy writing my own!

Tell me when you've lodged your Submission!

Email sarah@sarahjefford.com or text me 0400481703

Together, we can be part of something amazing.