

I am making this submission to the Committee in support of the Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill.

In this submission I have outlined the key reasons why there urgently needs to be a change in the law as proposed by the Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill.

There was strong opposition from disability advocates to the introduction of these regulations and this opposition has been totally ignored

Ahead of the regime coming into effect, 2,000 people with Down's syndrome and their families signed a letter to Prime Minister Boris Johnson asking him not to introduce abortion up to birth for Down's syndrome to Northern Ireland.

The Northern Ireland Assembly made it clear that it opposed a law change that would single out people with non-fatal disabilities

Following Heidi's call for Stormont to do everything it could to oppose abortion on the basis of disability up until birth, the Northern Ireland Assembly passed a motion opposing the extreme regulations that have been imposed on the province by the UK Government.

Sadly, the UK Government ignored the vote in the Northern Ireland Assembly and went ahead with imposing a new regime that effectively introduced abortion up to birth for babies with disabilities including Down's syndrome, cleft lip and club foot.

Similar legislation in England, Wales and Scotland has resulted in people with disabilities being unjustly and disproportionately targeted.

None of us is born perfect; least of all, arrogant politicians, who think they can decide who has the "Right to Life".

All of us, including those born with Down's syndrome, cleft-lip or club-foot, have our relative strengths and weaknesses.

Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God - and He will judge most harshly those, with such arrogance that they presume to know better than the Creator, who should live and who should die.