REVIEW OF SURROGACY LAWS

Australian Government
Australian Law Reform Commission

What is the Inquiry about?

The ALRC has been asked to review and make recommendations about how surrogacy is regulated in Australia, and to make proposals for uniform or complementary state, territory and Commonwealth laws. We will look at how surrogacy laws, policy, and practice work now, and with your input, how they can be reformed to best protect and promote the rights of children born through surrogacy arrangements, surrogates, and intended parents.

In our review, we have been asked to adopt a pragmatic, human rights-based approach to considering:

- how to reduce barriers to domestic surrogacy arrangements;
- how Australian law should address overseas surrogacy arrangements;
- how legal parentage for children born through surrogacy overseas should be recognised;
- how citizenship, visa, and passport requirements for children born through surrogacy overseas should be aligned; and
- what information should be available to children born through surrogacy arrangements.

Who is the ALRC?

The Australian Law Reform Commission is an independent agency. We conduct inquiries and make recommendations to the Australian Government about how to reform the law.

The Inquiry is led by Assistant Commissioner, Associate Professor Ronli Sifris, and ALRC President, the Hon Justice Mordy Bromberg.

What is the Inquiry process?

After initial research and discussions, we will publish an **Issues Paper** to help identify the problems with the current regulatory framework and possible reform options. We will publish a **Discussion Paper** in late 2025. The Discussion Paper will seek feedback on ideas for reform. We will give our **Final Report** to the Australian Government by 29 July 2026. We will consult extensively with key groups throughout the Inquiry.

How do I participate?

Anyone is welcome to participate in the Inquiry, and there will be several opportunities to do so. We want to hear from a broad range of people and organisations including those with expertise in surrogacy or human rights matters and people with personal experience of surrogacy (such as surrogates, intended parents, or children born through surrogacy arrangements).

There are three main ways to participate:

1. We will be holding consultations and meetings with a range of people and organisations.
2. We will call for formal submissions. Anyone is welcome to make a submission.
3. You can get in contact with us at any time during the Inquiry.

We also plan to conduct a survey and focus groups to understand the perspectives of people who have personal experience of surrogacy.

Get in touch
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