Hello, as a WA resident, I would like to voice my concerns for the upcoming surrogacy debate and specifically indicate support for three key amendments to the bill.

Firstly, Labor MP Hon Kate Doust MLC has put forward an amendment to preserve the minimum age for a surrogate at 25, rather than lowering it to 18 like the Government wants to do. This would help protect young woman who may not be emotionally mature enough to make such a decision.

Secondly, Hon Michelle Hofmann MLC has put forward an amendment to keep the current requirement that a woman has given birth to a baby before she can be a surrogate. This would prevent a mother's first experience with motherhood being that of giving a child away.

Finally, the Hon Maryka Groenewald MLC put forward an amendment that requested mandatory criminal checks, such is already the case on foster care and adoption.

In addition, gender-neutral language replacing the words "mother" with "birth parent" and "woman" with "person who is pregnant", can be seen as dehumanizing and degrading and should be changed back to the original wording.

Please consider supporting these amendments for the well-being of our young women, thank you.