

Tuesday 23rd January 2024 - Anonymous 3

To: Scrutiny Communications <Scrutiny@gov.je>

Subject: Review of the Draft Children and Civil Status (Amendments) (Jersey) Law 202-Feedback

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to express our feedback on the proposed changes to the above mentioned law, which we understand is currently being reviewed by the scrutiny panel.

Firstly, we'd like to confirm these changes will have a fundamental change to our life. Myself and my wife to be have our son who is just under [redacted] months old and he does not yet have a correct birth certificate with us both named as his parents. The proposed changes will correct this and allow us to re-register his birth retrospectively so we will both be his parents from a legal standpoint and both acquire parental status.

Secondly, when our son was born, we had to pay to have a joint residence order put in place so my wife to be would have parental responsibility for our son. What should have been the most special time of our lives, was over shadowed with us having to attend the family court to explain why she should be granted parental responsibility for her own son, this should not have to take place. The changes to the law, will stop another couple having to endure that situation.

There are no words to truly explain how these changes will positively affect our family. To put it simply, in the eyes of the law, we will be accepted as a family unit and our son will have a legal document acknowledging both his parents. What could be more important?

We sincerely hope our comments are taken into account and we move forward in a positive, inclusive manner and accept the proposed changes with grace.

Please retain our confidentiality and ensure we are kept anonymous in any public feedback paper.

Kind regards

[redacted]