



19 October 2011

MEDIA RELEASE

Inquiry into inclusion of donor details on the register of births

The issue of whether there should be provision to include donor details on the register of births maintained by the NSW Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages is to be examined in an inquiry conducted by the Legislative Assembly's Committee on Law and Safety.

The Committee's inquiry follows a recent District Court judgment to remove a sperm donor's details from the register of births.

Currently there is no provision for recording of sperm, egg or embryo donor details by the NSW Registrar. However, donor information is entered on a central register that has been kept by the Department of Health since January 2010. The register was set up to assist the exchange of information on donor conceived people, with donors and offspring having the opportunity to access information about each other.

The Chair of the Committee, Mr John Barilaro MP, said that "Access to information for donor conceived people is an important issue, and the Committee is keen to seek community views on where and how details should be maintained to facilitate this access."

"We will consider whether the current system for recording donor information is adequate, and whether these details should be kept by the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages."

"As part of the inquiry, we will also be exploring how donor details are recorded in other Australian jurisdictions."

The Committee is inviting submissions to the inquiry. Submissions can be emailed to lawsafety@parliament.nsw.gov.au, lodged via the Committee's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lawandsafety or mailed to: The Chair, Committee on Law and Safety, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

The closing date for submissions is **Wednesday, 21 December 2011**.

For further comments please contact Mr John Barilaro MP on 6299 4899.