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National polling confirms Australians want Government to address barriers to abortion care affordability and access

National polling commissioned by Fair Agenda and undertaken by Essential Media has shown that 72% of Australians agreed that: Australian Governments should ensure that patients who want abortion care can access it.

This is supported by 69% that agreed that: Australian Governments should take action to address barriers to accessing abortion care faced by many patients in rural and regional areas, or those experiencing domestic violence.

"This polling clearly shows that Australians want Government leadership to address barriers to abortion care that are impacting patients here in Australia." said Campaign Manager, Alyssa Shaw.

In Australia too many women face significant barriers, having to find upwards of \$500, or drive hundreds of kms, to access abortion care. This poll clearly shows that Australians expect more from our Government in addressing access and affordability."

"Fair Agenda is calling on the Australian Government to address the barriers to support access to abortion care by ensuring it's inclusion in Medicare. Minister Butler can take immediate steps to remove barriers faced by women in Australia by including medical abortion care as a Medicare item number and subsidising the cost, up to \$500. Abortion care should be included in Medicare as a start in addressing the barriers many women face in accessing abortion, especially those in regional or rural Australia, and those experiencing domestic violence" said Alyssa.

Daile Kelleher from pregnancy options counseling service Children by Choice said: "Nobody should have to find \$500 on short notice to get the urgent medical care they need. We hear from too many women and pregnant people who discover how much an abortion will cost, and consider delaying accessing this time sensitive healthcare in order to scrape the funds together."

Campaign Manager Alyssa Shaw said: "There is no room for complacency when it comes to abortion access. What we've seen overseas shows how easily abortion rights can be attacked -

we need to cement Australia as a country that supports compassionate abortion care; and ensures that we have agency over our body, and our future. This isn't just about legality, it's about affordability and access. We should all be able to access the abortion care we need; no matter our income. But we need Government leadership to make this possible."

"This is the first step in addressing the substantial barriers to abortion care access in Australia, in order to ensure that safe and legal abortion care is affordable and accessible for anyone who needs it."

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