SUBMISSION

in relation to the exposure draft of the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill 2012

This submission is made on behalf of the Melbourne Savage Club which is a single-sex club founded in 1894. The founding members had a mutual interest in the appreciation of music, art, drama, science and literature.

Today the club’s membership of about 550 comprises men from all walks of life who maintain the club’s focus on the arts. A number of members are in fact full time artists – painters, musicians, writers and performers. Many members are dedicated amateurs in a number of artistic fields.

The Melbourne Savage Club supports the exception contained in clause 35 of the Exposure Draft of the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill 2012 for single-sex clubs, which explicitly retains the exception currently contained in section 25(3) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1984. These exceptions give effect to the fundamental human right to freedom of association contained in Article 20 (1) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Signed........................................................................................................

Richard Evidge, Secretary
for and on behalf of the Melbourne Savage Club

Date: 30-11-2012