

Subject: Submission for Border Force Bill
Date: Thursday, 2 April 2015 2:40:34 PM

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

legcon.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary,

RE: Border Force Bill

I wish to make a submission on the Border Force Bill please.

The things that concern me most are the amount of power given to the Immigration Minister and the Border Force Commissioner. The other concern is the lack of accountability for instructions, which must be obeyed, and not necessarily approved by parliament until too late. I am concerned by the penalties against whistleblowers, a person who comes forward with serious concerns needs protection, not punishment. The recent example of what happened to the Save the Children Workers is a chilling pointer of what can already happen. The words "necessary" and "convenient" worry me in that they are not exact and are open to abuse with such ease. The protections for staff members who accidentally kill someone whilst under the influence of alcohol are seriously flawed. No-one should be drinking while working for a start, and not allowing that information to be admissible in court seems ridiculous to me... court is about getting to the truth.

This whole bill seems aimed at allowing the Border Force Commissioner, responsible only to the Minister for Immigration, to do what he likes without accountability, order people to do what he sees fit, sack whomever he pleases. Please do not allow this bill to pass.

Yours sincerely,

Diane Parker