

I strongly oppose the proposed legislation to continue the Northern Territory Intervention in its current form.

The evidence available to me suggests that the successes of the policy thus far have been minimal and the costs great.

Intervention into many aspects of community life in the NT could be desirable and is indeed necessary if the intention and result of the policy was the long-term empowerment and sustainability of Aboriginal communities on their variable terms. I believe that this is the approach that would pay respects for all that non-Aboriginal people have gained from the invasion of Aboriginal territories and the commodification of their resources since colonisation.

I urge the government to re-assess their plans and take progressive leadership in regards to policy that relates to development in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities that is based on best-practice practice and research, both locally and internationally and a holistically humanitarian approach.