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

By e-mail: [legcon.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:legcon.sen@aph.gov.au)

26 April 2013

Dear Secretary,

**Sex Discrimination Amendment (Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Intersex Status) Bill 2013**

The Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) is the national federation for the HIV community response. AFAO's members are the AIDS Councils in each state and territory; the National Association of People Living with HIV Australia (NAPWHA); the Australian Injecting & Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL); the Anwernekenhe National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander HIV/AIDS Alliance (ANA); and Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association. AFAO advocates for its member organisations, promotes medical and social research into HIV and its effects, develops and formulates policy on HIV issues, and provides HIV policy advice to Commonwealth, state and territory governments.

AFAO strongly supports the broadening of discrimination protections to cover Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Intersex Status. We have had the opportunity to review the National LGBTI Health Alliance's submission on the Sex Discrimination Amendment (Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Intersex Status) Bill 2013. AFAO endorses the positions taken in the Alliance's submission; addressing these key discrimination issues is essential to improving HIV and STI testing and treatment among these communities.

Yours sincerely,

Rob Lake  
Executive Director

*AFAO is the peak body for Australia's eight State and Territory AIDS Councils. AFAO's national members are the National Association of People Living with HIV Australia (NAPWHA), the Australian Injecting & Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL), Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association and Anwernekenhe National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander HIV/AIDS Alliance (ANA).*