

12th December 2012

TO: THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Exposure Draft of Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill 2012.

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill.

I am concerned that expanding the bill to include “offend” as a basis for discrimination is to seriously undermine freedom of speech.

From the commentary I have read it would seem this proposed bill will undermine, among other things, freedom of religious expression, freedom of political expression and put the onus of proof on the person accused rather than the presumption of innocence.

Can the government show me any case histories, the number of them and the details of the most serious cases of this occurring that has caused them to include “offend” in the proposed bill?

I therefore ask the Senate Committee to consider my views.

Yours sincerely,

Randell Green