



THE SENATE

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Note from committee secretariat

Approximately 42 submissions were received that were identical or substantially similar to the attached form letter.

The committee therefore agreed to publish one example of this form letter, along with a cover note setting out the approximate number of submissions received.

Please accept my submission:

I am very disappointed that the Sex Discrimination Amendment (Removing Discrimination Against Students) Bill 2018 aims to overturn the seventh recommendation of the Religious Freedom Review, which calls for the preservation of existing freedoms of Christian schools to teach and enrol only those students who are prepared to abide by the Bible's teaching on homosexual behaviour.

Furthermore, I do not agree with the assertion of the drafters of this bill that the rights of Christian schools will still be protected under section 7B of the Sex Discrimination Act, because the test of 'reasonableness' in that part of the act is far too vague.

To overturn this freedom of Christian schools will therefore have far-reaching consequences and will result in them being targeted by homosexual student campaigners, as activists would then be free to undermine the teaching of the faith within each school by adopting extreme homosexual displays with complete impunity. In fact, I don't think it is going too far to say that over time this bill alone will be sufficient to effectively destroy independent Christian education in Australia.

Please, therefore, recommend to the parliament that they should not pass this bill and should instead seek to implement all of the Religious Freedom Review's recommendations.

Yours faithfully,