



Australian Government

Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination

Ms Jackie Morris
A/Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Legal
and Constitutional Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Morris

Thank you for your letter of 3 October 2006 providing the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination with the opportunity to share our views on the *Crime Amendment (Bail and Sentencing) Bill 2006* (the Bill).

The Bill is part of a wider package of measures agreed to by the Council of Australian Governments on 14 July 2006, following the Intergovernmental Summit on Violence and Child Abuse in Indigenous Communities on 26 June 2006. The Australian Government is working with States and Territories on all of these measures to make Indigenous communities safer by addressing not only justice matters, but also policing, community support and governance.

I understand that the Attorney-General's Department has lodged a submission with the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs in relation to this particular measure. The Attorney-General's Department represents the Australian Government's position on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Bernie Yates
Deputy Secretary