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Friday, 19 May 2006

Committee Secretary  
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100, Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600, Australia  
By email: [legcon.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:legcon.sen@aph.gov.au)

**Re: Inquiry into the provisions of the Migration Amendment (Designated Unauthorised Arrivals) Bill 2006**

Dear Secretary,

Thank you for allowing members of the Australian community to comment on the proposed legislation outlined in the above Bill.

Because of the limited time allowed for submissions, Project SafeCom wishes to ask you for an extension of the deadline. This letter is to notify you of our intent to make comments on the Bill. This submission will include references to

- a. our opinion that this Bill undermines Australia's international obligations under the Convention for the Status of Refugees (The Refugee Convention);
- b. our concern that this Bill – in the context of the fact that Australia is a nation of “boatpeople” – seriously undermines our National character as a nation;
- c. our concern that this Bill very seriously erodes any gains to the humane and peaceful treatment of refugees, including the assessment of their asylum applications as a result of the recent commitments given to the so-called Georgiou/Moylan group;
- d. our concern that this Bill embodies what may well be construed at a future date a deliberate “persecution of a distinct group of the world population of migrants – that is ‘boat people’” in the context of International law.

We intend to send you our complete submission by Thursday May 25.

Yours Sincerely,

For Project SafeCom  
Jack H. Smit

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack H. Smit". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a blue ink scribble that forms a large, irregular shape.