

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee
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Dear Committee Secretary:

I would like to write you about my support for the following bills

- * Anti-Terrorism Laws Reform Bill and its amendments in general.
- * Green's Bill to pass through Parliament first, before any consideration is given to the Attorney-General's proposals for amendments.
- * Repeal of the sedition offences because they can be applied in a discriminatory way.
- * The proposed amendments to the definition of "terrorist act", because the current definition allows individuals to be targeted and charged on the basis of their religious or political beliefs.
- * Repeal of the offence of 'possessing things connected to a terrorist act' and the offence of 'association with a terrorist organisations or its members'.
- * Repeal of the presumption against bail for terrorism offences, and the 'dead time' provision for excluding investigative periods for police detention (which was used to detain Dr. Haneef).
- * However, there are two areas where the report does not go far enough:
 - o The system for banning 'terrorist organisations' should be repealed altogether as it is an arbitrary and draconian measure.
 - o The ASIO compulsory questioning powers should also be repealed because they undermine personal freedoms and create unwarranted anxiety and fear.

Best regards

Waseem Lodhi