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Department of the Senate
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Dear Committee Secretary

**Inquiry into the Tax Laws Amendment
(Confidentiality of Taxpayer Information) Bill 2009**

I respond to the invitation to provide a submission to the Inquiry and offer the following comments.

I understand from the Explanatory Memorandum that the Bill amends the secrecy and disclosure provisions that are currently spread over many taxation law Acts, with the key principle of the new framework being the protection of taxpayer information in order to preserve taxpayer privacy and confidence.

I am also aware that the *Review of Taxation Secrecy and Disclosure Provisions* in 2006 proposed some new disclosures for certain criminal investigations to law enforcement and intelligence agencies, and agencies such as ASIC, where privacy concerns are outweighed by the public benefit of those disclosures.

I support the Review's proposals for greater disclosure and would expand on that by suggesting that we lift the veil of secrecy. More specifically, I would argue that the names of 'tax dodgers' should be allowed to be published. It is my belief that privacy laws should not protect 'tax dodgers'.

Yours sincerely

Bob Such MP JP
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