



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

File Number: 14/2051

24 January 2014

Sophie Dunstone  
Committee Secretary  
The Senate  
Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee  
Submitted electronically and by email to [legcon.sen@apg.gov.au](mailto:legcon.sen@apg.gov.au)

Dear Ms Dunstone,

**Inquiry into the Criminal Code Amendment (Harming Australians) Bill 2013**

Thank you for your letter dated 19 December 2013. Mr Varghese AO has asked me to reply on his behalf.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade provides advice to the Australian Government on international law and transnational crime. We also provide consular assistance to Australian citizens and permanent residents travelling or living abroad.

We have read the submission prepared by the Attorney-General's Department dated January 2014 and express our support for that submission.

Yours sincerely

Katrina Cooper  
Senior Legal Adviser  
Legal Division