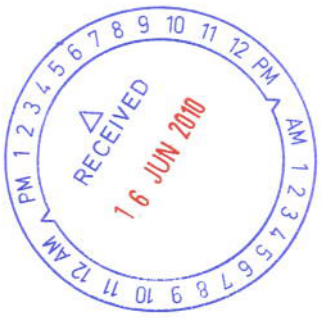

Senate Economics Committee,
Department of the Senate,
P.O. Box 6100,
Parliament House,
Canberra A.C.T. 2600.

14th June 2010

Dear Sirs,

Re the Tax Laws Amendment (Public Benefits Test) Bill 2010.

I have read about Senator Xenaphon's proposed Bill and would like to offer my view of the matter.

I am a Salvationist. This makes me fairly confident that The Army will be left tax free because it so palpably demonstrates the many benefits it yields to society in its work.

But it must be understood that the reason for such work is the same motive of faith in God's action in our world through Christ that motivates other bodies to preach the Good News without attaching any visible material benefits for society. However, the beneficiaries of such preaching become better citizens, more likely to offer a benefit to society than the reverse. Surely a positive member of the community is indeed a "material benefit" to that society?

Do please take this into your consideration when you consider the definitions that could form the principles of the good Senator's Bill.

Yours sincerely,

John R. Gillespie