



Australian Government

Department of Families, Housing,
Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

Mr Tim Watling
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Watling

Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Amendment Bill 2012

Thank you for your invitation to make a submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations inquiry into the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Amendment Bill 2012.

The Bill amends the *Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act 1999* to give effect to a 2010 election commitment. The commitment is to support gender equality and improve workforce participation and flexibility, through retaining and improving the *Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act 1999*. The Explanatory Memorandum provides detailed guidance regarding each element of the Bill.

The Office for Women would welcome the opportunity to assist the Senate Committee further in its considerations.

Cate McKenzie
Executive Director
Office for Women

23 March 2012