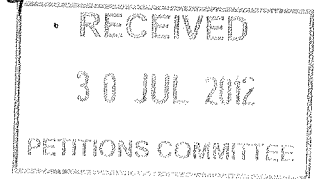


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**THE HON NICOLA ROXON MP
ATTORNEY-GENERAL
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

MC12/08026

20 JUL 2012

The Hon John Murphy MP
Chair, Standing Committee on Petitions
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Murphy

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John".

Thank you for your letter of 21 May 2012 regarding a petition opposing same-sex marriage submitted to the Standing Committee on Petitions from the Christian and Muslim communities.

The Government notes the strong opinions on this subject. As you are aware, three bills have been introduced into Parliament and have been referred to committees for inquiry. The future consideration and progress of the Bills will be a matter for the Parliament.

Yours in friendship

NICOLA ROXON