

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

This petition of two citizens of Australia

draws to the attention of the House:

the refusal of the Federal Government through its overseas embassies (for example Paris) to issue certificates of non-impediment, being an essential requirement for Australian citizens living abroad and wishing to enter into foreign registered marriages or partnerships (for example the French PACS), with someone of the same sex whereas they will issue these certificates to people in exactly comparable circumstances but wishing to marry someone of the opposite sex; this policy is a direct discrimination and infringement of the fundamental human rights on the basis of sexual orientation

We therefore ask the House to:

Take action to force the Government to change this policy and to ensure equal rights for all Australians

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draws to the attention of the House:

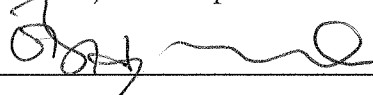
- the failure of the government of Australia to provide a system throughout Australia for the registration and certification of marriages or its equivalent for same sex couples;
- this means that such couples are deprived of civil status when travelling or wishing to live abroad, resulting, inter alia, in inability to gain foreign family visas, consequent inability to take up work opportunities overseas, loss of next of kin rights and liability to enormous death duties (being “strangers”) on the death of one;
- furthermore Australia refuses to recognise foreigners’ civil status certificates of same sex couples who come to Australia or wish to migrate here and has failed to seek reciprocal rights with foreign countries;
- we note that Victorian same sex Registered Partnerships are not recognised as equivalent to registered same sex relationships in France, Ireland, UK or in any country that we know of
- which is all a denial of our fundamental human rights

We therefore ask the House to:

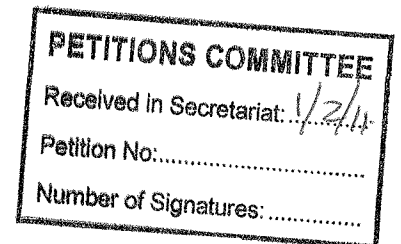
Take urgent action to introduce a nationwide or consistent system, of sufficient status for it to be likely to be recognised abroad, for registration and certification for such couples and to make its best endeavours to ensure that the civil status of all Australians is recognised by all countries

PRINCIPAL PETITIONER

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NAME AND SIGNATURE

1. ALDWYN VINCE LLEWELYN *Uma Llewelyn*
- 2.
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