



Submission No 132

Inquiry into potential reforms of National Security Legislation

Organisation: Mr David Phillips

Sent: Monday, 20 August 2012 4:42 PM

To: Committee, PJCIS (REPS)

Subject: Inquiry into potential reforms of National Security Legislation

Dear Mr Secretary,

I wish to ask that the Committee, in its deliberations on this legislation, takes into account the right to the privacy of individuals. This right is enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

The risk that is faced by all Australians is that we are treated as all guilty if these rights are not addressed in the legislation. Freedom of opinion and expression is an important part of our Australian life and culture. I recognise that with this right there is the responsibility not to disrespect it however the Committee must find ways to maintain this right while meeting the needs of National defence and policing in its many forms.

Sincerely
David Phillips