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Secretary:.....	<i>[Signature]</i>

Norfolk Island Inquiry

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TO:- Senator Ross Lightfoot,  
Chairman, Standing Committee on Territories,  
Parliament House, Canberra.

Dear Senator Lightfoot,  
Re: INQUIRY ON NORFOLK ISLAND

My wife (a true Norfolk Islander of direct Pitcairn descent) and I would like to contribute our views to the inquiry. Our permanent home is at Steeles Point, Norfolk Island, but unfortunately we presently have to live in Brisbane because of the inadequate and excessively costly medical services on the Island.

We consider that it would be better if local government on Norfolk Island was at the level of normal town or shire councils, and the Commonwealth accepted responsibility for health services, education, social security, major infrastructure, etc. Income tax should be extended to Norfolk Island but with a generous zone allowance in view of the high cost of living caused by high freight and travel costs. To counter-balance the introduction of income tax, the charging of import duty on goods from the Australian mainland should be discontinued. However it is important that effective quarantine should be continued to preserve Norfolk Island's unique freedom from many pests and diseases common on the mainland.

Although Norfolk Island must be recognized as part of Australia, it is important that its unique heritage be preserved as first and foremost the home of descendants of the Pitcairn Islanders, and to achieve this, locally controlled immigration administration should be maintained to ensure that undesirable people are not permitted to destroy the normally harmonious small community.

Yours sincerely,

Trevor Ernest Friend

*[Signature of Ernie Friend]*