

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Inquiry into the Freedom of Information (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and  
Other Measures) Bill 2008**

**Reason for referral of the Bill and information relating to the reference**

On 26 November 2008 the Senate, on the recommendation of the Selection of Bills Committee, referred the Freedom of Information (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Bill 2008 to the Finance and Public Administration Committee for inquiry and report by 10 March 2009.

Reasons provided for referral of the Bill and principal issues for consideration are:

To allow all stakeholders an opportunity to review the final Bill, and ensure the efficacy and transparency of the mechanisms applicable to a decision to exempt material; review of appropriate regime for such decisions, etc.

The Bill and second reading speech may be accessed via the link: [Legislation and documentation relating to the Bill](#)

The Committee invites you to provide a written submission addressing issues that may be of relevance to you. Closing date for submissions is 7 January 2009. The Committee prefers to receive submissions electronically as an attached document – email: [fpa.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:fpa.sen@aph.gov.au) – otherwise by fax (02 6277 5809).

Submissions become Committee documents and are made public only after a decision by the Committee. Publication of submissions includes loading them onto the internet and their being available to other interested parties including the media. Persons making submissions must not release them without the approval of the Committee. Submissions are covered by parliamentary privilege but the unauthorised release of them is not protected. Information relating to Senate Committee inquiries, including notes to assist in the preparation of submissions for a Committee, can be located on the Internet at [http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/wit\\_sub/index.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/wit_sub/index.htm)

Should you require further information please contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 3530.

**For further information, contact:**

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