

to whom it may concern

i strongly oppose the introduction of this legislation on the grounds that it goes against civil rights and will no doubt be used to further harass members of the muslim community in australia. anti-terrorist action has been inflicted on innocent muslims in australia since well before the 2000 olympics and as far as i know there has not been one arrest, despite numerous home raids and intrusions into the private lives of law abiding citizens.

why doesn't the government spend more time and money on public health and education instead?

this is what i oppose:

The Government is trying to introduce yet another piece of 'anti-terrorism' legislation into Parliament. The most worrying part is that the law would introduce a new offence for 'meeting' or 'communicating' with a person who is a member of an organisation that the government has proscribed as a terrorist organisation. This offence has a maximum penalty of 3 years imprisonment. This bill is so bad that even some members of the Liberal Party are opposed to it. It is especially dangerous combined with the new bail provisions that mean that bail is granted only under exceptional circumstances. This means innocent people could spend years in jail until they are found innocent.

The other provisions of the law would:

- grant to the authorities the power to prevent people from leaving Australia even before an ASIO warrant has been issued against them
- grant to the authorities the power to seize foreign passports from suspects
- allow the Attorney General to transfer convicted and remand prisoners

to another state 'in the interest of security'

- intrude into the privacy of citizens by allowing investigators to access the National Criminal Investigation DNA database in the event of a domestic mass casualty incident

from anna blazey