

From: Jennifer Clarke  
Sent: Friday, 10 August 2007 11:10 AM  
Dear Committee Secretary,

Please find attached an opinion piece which I have written about the 'acquisition of property' dimensions of the NTNER Bills. Would you accept it and the following comments as a submission to your inquiry into the Bills? I have spent most of the past three weeks away from Canberra or at home with a sick child, and have not had an opportunity to work on a formal submission.

I would ask that clause 62 of the NT National Emergency Response Bill 2007 be amended as follows:

- Subsection (1): by inserting the words 'Unless the land council for the area in which the land is situated consents, in writing, to the non-payment of rent and gives the Minister a copy of the consent' before 'The Commonwealth Minister', and by changing 'may' to 'must';
- Inserting at the end a new subsection: '(6) The Aboriginals Benefit Account must not be debited to pay rent under subsection (5).'

Regards from  
Jennifer Clarke  
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