

From: Parry Monckton

Sent: Friday, 10 August 2007 11:31 AM

To: Legal and Constitutional, Committee (SEN)

Subject: Senate enquiry into NT Emergency response bill

Jackie Morris

Committee Secretary

Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee

Department of the Senate

PO Box 6100

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Australia

Dear Ms Morris,

I along with many other members of the Australian public feel deeply offended by the rapid haste with which this matter has been presented to parliament. With a bill of hundreds of pages it is obviously impossible for individual Senators or members of the committee to consider this bill properly. This kind of rushed political behaviour by the present government is typical of the ways that proper parliamentary scrutiny of such bills is avoided. I would urge the committee to properly consider in particular the following issues in proper depth and recommend adequate time be set aside to consider all matters properly. In particular the following aspects of the bill require much greater scrutiny and consideration.

- the suspension of the Racial Discrimination Act,
- the suspension of the permit system,
- the creation of a number of new criminal offences with the potential to dramatically increase the rate of imprisonment of indigenous Australians, and
- the suspension of Native Title with non-cash compensation in a manner which may lead to permanent extinguishment.

I expect those senators to do their duty properly and have time to do so.

Yours sincerely

Dr R Parry Monckton