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Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Inquiry into the Evidence Amendment Bill 2008

This is my submission. There are no attachments.

I understand and fully support the compellability provisions in the Bill which are to ensure that same-sex couples are treated in the same manner as de facto spouses.

I am in favour of replacing the definition of 'de facto spouse' with the gender neutral phrase 'de facto partner'. I cannot see how this diminishes the rights of any other groups in our society or devalues marriage.

Yours sincerely,
John Goldbaum