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Dear Members of the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee,

With respect to the above-mentioned Bill, I am concerned that the fallacy that same sex partnerships are equivalent to normal marriage is being exacerbated by this Bill.

On the tried and true definition that marriage is a life long commitment of a man and a woman, the Family Law Amendment Bill should not be passed nor this apparently consequential Bill. See my previous emails.

The original reason for husband and wife not to be compelled to give evidence against each other was to protect that lifelong commitment which not only involves a sexual relationship (heterosexual) but life long parenting and companionship support. It is questionable, and certainly not a matter of justice or injustice, that same sex couples shouldn't be forced to give evidence against each other.

Again I believe the same sex lobby is trying too hard to get same sex relationships recognised as marriage. Even if this gets passed by itself, it will be used as a lever to force marital recognition.

Furthermore, how do you prove such same sex or de facto relationships? Even if there was a register of such relationships, it would be difficult to keep up to date. Thus it could be open to abuse from criminals who might maintain that witnesses against them would be in a same sex relationship with them to avoid a criminal associate from giving evidence. Passing such a law would be a big move from the protection of normal marriage.

Thanking you for your consideration of these matters and looking forward to a sensible and nation-building outcome.

Yours sincerely,

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