

National Human Rights Consultation Submission

AGWW-7RWBUT

Name: Chris Broomhead

Submission Text:

Dear HREOC,

I wish to write briefly to express my concern about the proposed Charter of Human Rights.

It is my view that it is unnecessary legislation that potentially waters down the rights of the elected parliament to legislate on human rights issues and the like, and instead empowers the judiciary to decide on such matters.

I believe that the power of parliament to decide on such issues is a much more democratic process and more representative of the larger population than allowing such issues to be continually decided by courts.

Not only is it potentially a drain on courts and the legal system's resources but it also opens up the opportunity for an assortment of individuals, groups and organisations to push for their particular agenda, regardless of whether the majority of people are in favour or not; something which courts and judges - in my opinion - are predisposed to entertaining.

Despite popular sweeping reports about 'the majority of Australians want a Human Rights Act', I know very few people who are actually in favour of it.

It's also a moot point whether a country like Australia actually needs such an Act as we do have a relatively egalitarian society which is well represented through our elected leaders.

I hope you are able to take my views into consideration.

Regards,
Chris Broomhead