

National Human Rights Consultation Submission

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Submission Text:

I strongly support the introduction of a charter of human rights. I think that a national charter along the lines with Victorian model would serve both our national interest and individual interests in a way that no other organ of government can.

All proposed legislation should have to pass a public interest test before being passed in law.

A charter of human rights reinforces the dominance of civil society and progressive change to ensure a better society for all. It would provide an instrument against which to measure political decisions made in our adversarial party political system. The senate is often regarded by many as a house of review however this is an inadequate political means of defining public interest as too often dominated by unrepresentative minorities or the political party in power to adequately perform this role.

We need to have a means by which human rights interests can be pursued above and beyond both parliament and the court system as a yard stick for decision making and public debate.