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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 November 2017 1:44 PM
To: Policy AGD
Subject: Submission: Review of the NT Anti-Discrimination Act

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I support all the proposed reforms outlined in the September 2017 Discussion Paper regarding changes to the NT Anti-Discrimination Act.

The Northern Territory is a wonderful and unique place to live. It also faces many difficulties. We require creative and dedicated people who are committed to living in the Territory if we are to make the most of our future.

The Territory needs to offer the same protections and safeguards people have come to expect in other parts of Australia if we are to attract and retain these people.

Implementing the proposed reforms will send a clear message to the community that all Territorians are equal. It will give comfort to individuals, families and workers who want to make the Territory their permanent home — for example:

- It will make it possible for same-sex couples who wish to have children to remain in the NT instead of relocating interstate to access assisted reproductive technology.
- It will make it less likely that young people feel it is necessary to leave the NT to receive the full protection of the law.
- It will reassure people who volunteer their time with community groups that they will receive the same protection from discrimination as people who are employed by those organisations.

All Territorians benefit when people who previously may have been reluctant to stay in the NT decide to make the Territory their permanent home.

There are many disadvantages in the Territory that are not easily ameliorated. A small population spread over a large area makes it expensive to provide social and economic infrastructure available in many other parts of Australia.

Providing legal protection against discrimination costs little compared with the benefits it offers to the whole community.

Yours sincerely

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