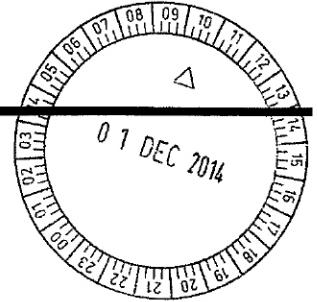


Parsons, Samantha

To: Legislation, Uniform
Subject: RE: Succession to the Crown Bill 2014



-----Original Message-----

From: Geoff Taylor
Sent: Monday, 1 December 2014 10:37 PM
To: Legislation, Uniform
Subject: Succession to the Crown Bill 2014

Standing Committee on Uniform Legislation and Statutes Review

1. I note that the bill would continue to entrench inequality in relation to the highest constitutional post in WA, and Australia, contrary to Article 26 of the ICCPR which reflects the UN Declaration on Human Rights.

2. The bill by making no attempt to alter the Act of Settlement and allow Roman Catholics to be King or Queen, continues to permit discrimination against them on religious grounds. As such it is contrary to the principles of the WA Equal Opportunity Act. So as an act originating in the UK, but whose thrust was adopted by sixteen countries at CHOGM in Perth, it impinges upon the sovereignty of Western Australia, by threatening to continue practices which would be illegal in the WA jurisdiction. The same point could be made in relation to eg. Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims, Jews and atheists.

3. The bill makes no attempt to address the fact that a child of the King or Queen could not be given a religious upbringing other than Anglican or no religious upbringing at all, because of the Act of Settlement. Once again it affects the sovereignty of WA, by not addressing and threatening to continue a practice which overrides our legislated principle of commitment to equal opportunity.

4. The bill does have merit in removing gender discrimination, and discrimination against Roman Catholic spouses for the select sanguinary group.

Thank you
Geoff Taylor