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Research Director Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee Parliament house George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for inviting comment from the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian (the Commission) in relation to the Criminal Law (Child Exploitation and Dangerous Drugs) Amendment Bill 2012 (the Bill).

The Commission welcomes measures to strengthen protections and safeguards for children and young people in Queensland and is pleased endorse the Bill and the proposed legislative changes. The Commission also supports the proposed consequential amendments to the *Commission for Child and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000* to reflect changes made to the criminal law by the Commonwealth in relation to child sex offences and the amendments in this Bill.

The proposed measures highlight and reinforce the serious nature of offences involving the procurement and grooming of children and young people for sexual exploitation or to engage in sexual activities. In addition the Bill recognises the harm to the community from the supply and distribution of chemicals which facilitate the production of an expanding array of dangerous drugs.

It is critical that we continue to implement measures which enhance and promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people and I look forward to following the progress of the Bill.

Should you require any further information regarding the Commission's position, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Susan Dwyer, principal Advisor, office of the Commissioner and Child Guardian on the commission or

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Fraser Commissioner for Children and Young People and Child Guardian