

From: [Peter Christinson](#)
To: [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)
Subject: Relationships (Civil Partnerships) and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2015
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 9:50:45 PM

Dear Research Director, Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee,

I am writing in support of the Relationships (Civil Partnerships) and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2015. The introduction of the *Civil Partnerships Act* in 2011 was a recognition that all committed relationships are equally deserving of validation and celebration. To me, in the context of continuing legal discrimination by the State the Queensland, the Act's equal treatment of heterosexual and same-sex partnerships was a profound symbol of my home State's inclusion of me and my commitment to my loved one. Conversely, the removal of State-sanctioned ceremonies for same-sex couples and the demeaning change in nomenclature to 'registered relationships' in 2012 signalled to me a renewed exclusion of me from society and a degrading of the value of my loving relationship.

I welcome any move to return the *Civil Partnerships Act* to its original state and the achievement of its original intention: dignity without distinction. However, the change to this law must be part of a wider legislative package that removes discrimination under Queensland law based on sexuality.

Thank you sincerely for the opportunity to make this submission.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Christinson

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