

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Human Rights Bill 2018 Submission  
**Date:** Friday, 9 November 2018 8:26:10 AM

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Dear Committee,

I believe that Queensland deserves an enforceable Human Rights Act so we can live in a fairer and a more equal state.

I want the Human Rights Bill 2018 to be passed by the Queensland Parliament as soon as possible.

This is about protecting the human rights of every person in our community – our families, friends, neighbours and colleagues.

I want to live in a state where we can be sure that our government will follow the rules it has agreed to and takes responsibility for respecting our human rights in how it creates laws, spends money and delivers services.

As a Community Development Worker, working unpaid in my community, the Sunshine Coast hinterland, I am aware of the often complex needs of vulnerable people which denies them the right of full citizenship and participation in community life.

A response; local lead for Compassionate Communities in this region, part of a national project. With its beginnings in Australia, Compassionate Communities is now a growing international and national movement drawing on the work of Professor Allan Kellehear and a growing network of academics, practitioners and community members. Read Allan Kellehears Compassionate City Charter.

Despite everyone's best efforts, existing models of providing care and support has done little to reduce the problems of social isolation, carer burden, stigma and fear at end of life. Adopting a whole of community approach where formal and informal care networks come together to provide support, is a complementary approach which has proven to have a huge impact on issues of isolation, carer burden as well as developing community capacity and connection in the process.

In Compassionate Communities, citizens are encouraged to engage and become more informed about death, dying, loss and care and adapt their practices and behaviour to be active in supporting those at end of life. Services and local authorities play a significant role in providing and sustaining quality end of life care, but people from all walks of life should be involved in designing suitable end of life care policies that meet their needs.

This important work is now being turned into a research project at the University of the Sunshine Coast. While I understand the importance of the Human Rights Bill 2018, it is critical to understand how the Act will apply

to us; as citizens and advocates with connections and dealings with government institutions and services, non-government institutions, all levels of government, and communities and the private sector.

The Queensland Government must allocate sufficient resources to ensure that each government department reviews their laws, policies and practices to ensure their compliance with human rights and for community education.

I think the Human Rights Bill 2018 could be improved by allowing:

1. People to make a human rights complaint to a court or tribunal
2. The tribunal or court considering the complaint to award damages where appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Hall

[REDACTED]

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