



LAPCSESC
Civil Partnerships
Submission 1676

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS
ABN 56 354 724 462

30 Helen Street, Teneriffe QLD 4006
PO Box 1372, Eagle Farm BC QLD 4009
Email: pflagbris@hotmail.com
Phone: 07 3017 1739

4th November, 2011

Submission for Civil Partnership Bill 2011

As National Spokesperson for parents with lesbian daughters and gay sons I am writing a submission in support of the Private Members Bill introduced by Andrew Fraser on the issues of Civil Partnerships for same sex attracted couples.

This proposed legislation should be seen as a necessary step forward for Queensland and Andrew Fraser should be congratulated for his support of same sex attracted couples on this issue. This Bill will provide the necessary legal recognition and validation of our sons and daughters relationships which is very important to them as couples and us their parents. The validation of their relationships is long overdue, but it should be noted that as parents we don't believe the passing of this Bill should be seen as marriage equality in this country as a whole. However, we do acknowledge it is presently the best any State Governments can do at this time.

The introduction of this Bill will validate relationships, ensure legal problems will be minimised and next of kin issues will become a non issue. As parents we believe our gay sons and lesbian daughters' relationships should be legally recognised by society generally and the State in which they live.

We recommend that this Bill needs to:

- recognise couples from other States who have similar legislation
- recognise couples who have married overseas
- legislate for inclusion of a ceremony with friends and family

We need our State to be as inclusive as possible to encourage fairness and equality.

Yours truly,

Shelley Argent OAM
Brisbane President (PFLAG)
National Spokesperson (PFLAG)
Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays
Qld. Senior Australian 2011

