

7th January 2010

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Primary and Ambulatory Care Division (MDP1)
Department of Health and Ageing
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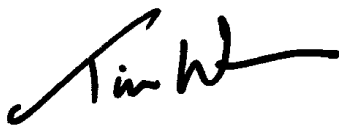
Dear Primary and Ambulatory Care Division

Re Exposure Draft Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Bill.

The contact person for this submission is Tim Warner, Liberty Victoria Treasurer. Tim may be reached via email at twarner@accesscardnoway.net or via phone on 0408 321 948.

Yours Sincerely,



Tim Warner
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Exposure Draft - Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010

The Victorian Council for Civil Liberties Inc—Liberty Victoria— (Liberty) is an independent non-government organization which traces its history back to the first civil liberties body established in Melbourne in 1936. Liberty is committed to the defence and extension of human rights and civil liberties. It seeks to promote Australia's compliance with the rights and freedoms recognised by international law. Liberty has campaigned extensively in the past on issues concerning human rights and freedoms, democratic processes, government accountability, transparency in decision-making and open government.

Liberty notes with concern that this significant piece of legislation - which has effects across a range of Privacy, Health and general Public Policy has been 'opened' for comment over a four week period during which most professional organisations are closed.

Liberty Victoria supports the submission of the Australian Privacy Foundation on this exposure draft. Liberty looks forward to an open, extended discussion, enquiry and debate when this Bill is brought to Parliament.

Liberty also looks forward to the early release of all pertinent documents to give a transparent and open process. This includes any document relating to the trials in NSW and Tasmania and COAG papers relating to the design and implementation of the proposed system.

We agree to the posting and publication of this submission by the Commonwealth and the COAG authorities.