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17 October 2012

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
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Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
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To the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee

Inquiry into the Law Enforcement Integrity Legislation Amendment Bill 2012

Liberty Victoria is one of Australia's leading human rights and civil liberties organisations. It is concerned with the protection and promotion of civil liberties throughout Australia. As such, Liberty is actively involved in the development and revision of Australia's laws and systems of government. Further information on our activities may be found at www.libertyvictoria.org.au.

We thank you for the extension of time to make this submission.

Liberty Victoria supports the adoption of the Bill and its passage into law. It appears to sensibly balance the subject's right to privacy with appropriate limitations on undue interference – this is not arbitrary given a warrant needs to be obtained before any surveillance is undertaken. Liberty Victoria supports the Integrity Commissioner's oversight of the federal law enforcement agencies as an appropriate check and balance on the integrity of these organisations. Broadening the Integrity Commissioner's oversight of the ACC, AFP and other federal bodies and creating a system of integrity testing of staff members to determine if they respond appropriately is a mechanism that is reasonable.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this submission further please contact Aggy Kapitaniak or Gillian Garner through the Liberty Victoria office on 9670 6422 or info@libertyvictoria.org.au. This is a public submission and is not confidential.

Yours sincerely

Spencer Zifcak
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