



# Catryna Bilyk

Labor Senator for Tasmania

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Ref: BE

3 August 2011

The Right Revd John Harrower OAM  
Bishop of Tasmania  
GPO BOX 748  
HOBART TAS 7001

Dear Reverend

Thank you for your correspondence of 26 July 2011 regarding same-sex marriage.

I appreciate you taking the time to share your views with me.

The Government believes that the definition of marriage in the Marriage Act—that marriage is between a man and a woman—is appropriate. This is current Labor Party policy, decided by the National Conference.

While not supporting same-sex marriage, the Government does support a nationally consistent framework for relationship recognition to be implemented by the States and Territories.

This issue is to be discussed further at the ALP National Conference in December 2011.

Please contact my office on 6229 4444 if I can be of further assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

CATRYNA BILYK  
SENATOR FOR TASMANIA