



Police Federation  
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The Secretary  
Parliamentary Joint Committee on  
the Australian Crime Commission  
PO Box 6100  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

***Inquiry into the Australian Crime Commission Amendment Act 2007***

Dear Dr Dewar

The Police Federation of Australia (PFA) makes this submission on behalf of all state, territory and federal police associations and unions representing Australia's 50,000 police.

The PFA supports the general thrust of the *Australian Crime Commission Amendment Act 2007* and understands the time constraints that were placed on the Parliament in late 2007 to have the Bill passed prior to the current Inquiry.

As the Australian Crime Commission (ACC) was established, with the strong support of the PFA, to play a leading role in the investigation and prosecution of serious and organized crime, it is imperative that the Parliament gives it the appropriate powers to undertake that task. It is our view that this Amendment Act rectifies deficiencies in the legislation that were identified in *ACC v Brereton*. The PFA also supports the retrospective application of the legislation.

However, in giving the ACC such powers, it is also fitting that Parliament puts in place appropriate oversight by bodies such as the Australian Commission for Law

Enforcement Integrity and this Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission to ensure that the application of the law is handled appropriately. The PFA would also support some form of review of the outcomes and use of the legislation at a time to be determined by the Parliament on recommendation from this Committee.

The PFA is prepared to appear before the Joint Committee should we be required.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "m A Burgess". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly informal style.

Mark Burgess  
Chief Executive Officer