

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Have Your Say \(DoJ\)](#)
Subject: Submission on the Workplaces (Protection from Protesters) Amendment Bill 2019
Date: Sunday, 3 March 2019 7:25:34 PM

Submission on the Workplaces (Protection from Protesters) Amendment Bill 2019.

The bill should be abandoned because;

1. It compounds the confused nature of the original Act. This bill fails to make the Act clear and easily applicable and so is unfair to both the public and the police who are expected to implement it.
2. The bill criminalises any interference with any business or, in the reverse, cuts down the long-held right of citizen's to peacefully object to business malpractice. The amendments effectively widen the original intent to trammel the rights of environmental protesters to cut the rights of all Tasmanians to object to business malpractice.
3. Leaving police to decide what the term 'threatening' (to interfere with a business) means is a failure of the need for laws to be clear and explicit.
4. The High Court accepted that there are other Tasmanian laws to deal with criminal or destructive behaviour, including those that may take place in public forests.
5. Worryingly, the bill would also create a new, standalone offence of 'threatening' to interfere with a business, regardless of whether this happens or not. This suggests the law may drift dangerously into regulating public expression rather than actual physical acts of interference.
6. The bill is unnecessary, and the duplication of offences renders the bill unconstitutional as the bill is not reasonable and appropriately adapted to its purpose.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

A Ferrari

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