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Dear Prime Minister

Over the last few months Progressive Judaism Victoria has viewed with great concern the proposed introduction of your Government's Religious Discrimination Bill.

As a basic philosophy, PJV sees very little to be gained within a harmonious society to introduce any legislation that makes it legal to practice discrimination for any religious or any other reason. The second draft brings this discrimination into medical and other areas which PJV sees as very dangerous and potentially hate making.

The situation as it stands at present, seems to work pretty well and any of your proposed changes appears to us to simple be a sop for extremist groups to deny fair participation of mainly minority groups in the community.

If various groups wish to discriminate against the GLBTI community for example, because of their religious beliefs, then what is to stop groups discriminating against Jews or Moslems and sighting their religious dogmas to make it legal.

PJV simply sees this proposed legislation as the beginning of the end of a just and united Australia. 'Do no harm' should be the Government's basic ideal and these proposals do not do that.

Yours sincerely

**Philip**

Dr Philip Bliss OAM

President, Progressive Judaism Victoria