



Tassie keen on rights charter

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TASMANIA'S Young Labor branch has called for a charter of human rights.

Members of the branch passed the motion at a state conference on Sunday.

Australian Young Labor secretary Kevin Midson said a charter of rights would give Tasmanians a clear statement of their rights and allow them to be protected.

The Tasmanian Law Reform Institute hopes to hand its final report into such a charter to the Attorney-General within a month.

Report co-ordinator Terese Henning said the issues paper had received a huge response.

"On a per capita basis we've probably had the biggest response to a human rights charter issues paper in the country," she said.

She said NSW and the ACT got between 100 and 145 responses, but 400 Tasmanians responded to the paper.

"The public response was brilliant," she said.

The State Government is considering a charter of rights to enshrine the human rights of Tasmanians, such as free speech. The issues papers said the State Government did not want a model to enable the courts to overrule legislation.