



**Letters to the Editor**

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We need a charter

THE Tasmanian Gay and Lesbian Rights Group strongly supports the Tasmanian Law Reform Institute's call for a state charter of rights.

Such a charter will protect the rights of all citizens, including those most vulnerable to human rights abuses. If a charter of rights had been in place in the 1990s the contentious issue of decriminalising homosexuality could have been resolved in Tasmania rather than involving the UN Human Rights Committee.

Despite the progress we have made since then, there are still some laws and policies which discriminate against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people and a Charter would allow these issues to have their day in court.

Enacting a charter of rights would be an excellent way for the Government to prove it is sincere about its stated goal of a socially inclusive and culturally confident Tasmania.

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Tasmanian Gay and Lesbian Rights Group