

PUBLIC STATEMENT PROTESTING AGAINST THE STRONGER FUTURES BILLS

We sign this Public Statement to express our strongest support for the Aboriginal Yolgnu Nations Assembly representing some 8,000 Aboriginal people in west, central and east Arnhem Land who oppose the passage of these Bills in the Senate. The legislation proposes to further extend Government intervention and control over the land and lives of Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory which began in 2007 and is still in place, for a further 10 years.

We cannot stand by and just allow this to happen unchallenged.

We join with eminent Australians the Hon Malcom Fraser, Ian Viner QC as well as the Catholic Church and the Uniting Church, to protest against the Bills.

We support the Yolgnu Nations in their call on "both the Australian Federal and Northern Territory Governments to end their interventions policies and agendas, and return to a mindset of partnership based on Self-Determination".

Signed 3 May 2012

Hon Robyn Layton AO QC
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Accompanied by Yolgnu Statement 24.4.12 and Appendix in separate attachment