Women's Health Victoria

knowledge into action

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Exposure Draft of *Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill 2012*

Women's Health Victoria welcomes the opportunity to comment on the consolidation of Commonwealth anti-discrimination laws.

Women's Health Victoria is a statewide women's health promotion, information and advocacy service. Women's Health Victoria's vision is *Women living well – healthy, empowered, equal.*

Women's Health Victoria would like to reiterate our support for the inclusion of domestic and family violence as a new ground for discrimination. This issue was originally raised in the Australian Human Rights Commission's submission to the consultation on *Consolidation on Commonwealth Anti-Discrimination Laws* in February 2012, but I note that the recommendation has not been adopted in the Exposure Draft of the legislation.

The submissions provided by the Australian Human Rights Commission is comprehensive, and provides a thorough analysis of why domestic and family violence should be included as a separate ground. Women's Health Victoria continues to support all the recommendations put forward by the Australian Human Rights Commission in their submissions, available online from: http://www.ag.gov.au/Humanrightsandantidiscrimination/Australiashumanrightsframework/Pages/ConsolidationofCommonwealthantidiscriminationlaws.aspx

I urge you to consider inclusion of domestic and family violence in any future review of the *Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill 2012.*

Yours Sincerely

RITA BUTERA
Executive Director

Quality Improvement Council Limited