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Honourable VM Sisulu, MP
Speaker of the National Assembly
Parliament
Cape Town, 8000

Dear Honourable Speaker

I hereby, in my capacity as a Member of the National Assembly, submit to you a private member's legislative proposal that seeks to amend the Commission on Gender Equality Act No. 39 of 1996 and Human Rights Commission Act No.54 of 1994.

Objectives of the proposals

The proposals seeks to empower the Commission on Gender Equality and the Human Rights Commission to be able to actively champion the gender and human rights of all South Africans when such rights are violated both in the Republic and outside the Republic of South Africa.

Please find attached the respective proposals.

Sincerely yours

Hon MP Mentor, MP

**Proposed Amendments Commission on
Gender Equality Act No.39 of 1996**

1. I seek to propose amendments to the Commission on Gender Equality Act No 39 of 1996, Subsection 11 (3) by adding the following phrases to the following clauses respectively:

- (f) shall as far as is practicable maintain close liaison with institutions, bodies or authorities with similar objectives to the Commission, in order to foster common policies and practices and to promote co-operation in relation to the handling of complaints in cases of overlapping jurisdiction or other appropriate instances; both within the Republic and internationally
- (g) shall liaise and interact with any organisation which actively promotes gender equality and other sectors of civil society to further the object of the Commission; both within the Republic and internationally
- (h) shall monitor the compliance with international conventions, international covenants and international charters, acceded to or ratified by the Republic, relating to the object of the Commission, and shall do so when gender rights of South Africans are violated outside the Republic of South Africa

I further seek to add an extra function which reads as follows:

- Shall actively champion the gender rights of South Africans when such rights are violated outside the Republic of South Africa.

**Proposed Amendments to the
Human Rights Commission Act No.54 of 1994**

1. I seek to propose amendments to the Human Rights Commission Act No.54 of 1994, by adding the following clause to Subsection 7(e)
- 7(e) may bring proceedings in a competent court or tribunal, including international courts and tribunals, in its own name, or on behalf of a person or a group or class of persons

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS TO THE STATE

The legislation has no financial implications to the state.