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The Ad Hoc Committee on Protection of State Information Bill

National Council of Provinces

Attention: Mr G. Dixon

Committee Secretary

Per Email: gdixon@parliament.gov.za

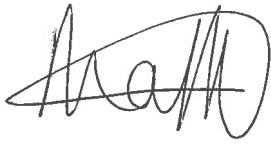
17 February 2012

Dear Sir

RE: PROTECTION OF STATE INFORMATION BILL [B6B-2010]

1. We are a non-governmental organisation (NGO) whose mandate it is to participate in the combatting of corruption. We established ourselves approximately three weeks ago, on 26 January 2012 and, we have not had the opportunity to give the Protection of State Information Bill (the Bill) the detailed consideration that a formal submission demands. However, we want it to be placed on record that our work is fundamentally dependent on the right of citizens to freely report experiences of corruption.
2. It accordingly follows that we would be extremely concerned at any legislation that impeded- whether by design or inadvertently- the right of members of the public to freely report experiences of corruption to us.
3. We have noted the concern of many other NGOs and like-minded institutions regarding the possible impact of the Bill.
4. We would respectfully wish to reserve our rights to more fully engage in any further interactions with your honourable committee regarding the legislative process currently underway.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Lewis', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

David Lewis

Executive Director

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