## Suggested Letter from a Staff Member

The Honourable [insert Member name]

Member for [insert]

[insert postal address]

Dear Mr/Ms/Dr [insert last name],

PROPOSED REFORMS TO QUEENSLAND’S ANTI-DISCRIMINATION ACT

I am a [insert job title] at Faith Christian School. In this role, I am passionate about seeing young people be educated in a discrimination-free environment, and my place of employment strives to be such a place. I have reviewed the Building Belonging Report on the review of Queensland’s Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 and as a staff member of a Christian school, the proposed reforms cause me serious concern for the future of Christian education in Queensland.

I firmly believe that parents have the right to choose a school for their child in which their education will be delivered in a manner that aligns with their own convictions. Further, I believe that a school’s Beliefs and Ethos are directly represented by those persons who voluntarily and willingly choose to be part of its membership, volunteer base and employee group; I am such a person. It is vital that Christian schools (as well as other faith-based organisations) have the freedom to employ and engage those persons who act in a manner consistent with the beliefs and practices of the faith on which the school is based.

To prohibit Christian schools from employing Christian staff will not only alter the future of faith-based education and impede on a parent’s right to choose, it also tells me that my values, beliefs, and convictions which make me who I am, are not welcome in my chosen profession. I believe that this goes against the very intentions of the reforms.

I believe in the importance of schools being able to employ staff that are committed to the Mission and Ministry of a Christian school which is balanced by striving to be communities of Grace, Acceptance, and Excellence to all. As a constituent in your electorate, I urge you to vote against these proposed changes in Parliament.

Failing to do so will communicate to me that my religious beliefs, values, and choices as an employee within the faith-based Queensland education sector are insignificant and unimportant, and I will reconsider my support for a Member who will not stand for the Right to Choose on behalf of staff, schools and parents.

Yours Sincerely,

[insert name and signature]