

**From:** [Kate Charlwood](#)  
**To:** [Legislative Scrutiny Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Submission for Care and Protection of Children Legislation Amendment (Every Child Matters) Bill 2026  
**Date:** Friday, 22 May 2026 8:46:36 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I live in Darwin and am concerned that the proposed amendment to the Care and Protection of Children Legislation will have unintended consequences.

It is critical that children are protected and families supported. However, I am concerned that the Bill is expanding punitive intervention rather than introducing evidence-based reforms that keep children safe.

The Bill fails to adequately address poverty, housing stress, service shortages, and intergenerational disadvantage, which are known to be drivers of child protection involvement. By increasing surveillance and coercive intervention into the lives of families already under significant social and economic stress, the Bill risks causing further harm to children.

I call on the Northern Territory Government to undertake proper consultation to determine long term solutions rather than employing a knee-jerk reaction that seriously risks causing further harm.

Kind regards,

Kate Charlwood