



Senator Jacqui Lambie Senator for Tasmania

22 October 2015

Prime Minister
The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister Turnbull,

Re: Senator Lambie's plan to advance Tasmania and other Australian States for Prime Minister Turnbull

JLN National Policies

1. **CFMEU's deregistration and the production by the Turnbull Government of Secret Royal Commission documents –**

Many government members argue that the CFMEU is a rouge union that continues to ignore the law despite the imposition of penalties. JLN agrees.

If the government was serious about tackling crime and corruption in the building and construction industry and lowering costs, they would have moved very quickly to deregister the CFMEU

Just as the Liberal - and then Labor Party combined in the 1980's to finally deregister a similar Union – the Builders Labourers' Federation or BLF, JLN calls on this government to deregister the CFMEU.

Commissioner Heydon of the Union Royal commission has released a secret report to this government and state governments where he warns of *"a grave threat to the power and authority of the Australian state"*.

Commissioner Heydon has refused to release the secret report to the Australian senate, despite the Senate requiring the report to make an informed decision on ABCC legislation.

JLN calls on this government to release under special conditions, (that protects witnesses) the Heydon Secret report for examination.

2. **Integrity of all Australian Political Party Donations Investigated**

Recent disclosures in the Union Royal Commission and the media strongly indicate that money received by Australian political parties could be from corrupt activities, the proceeds of crime or ill-gotten gains.

Senator Lambie would like the terms of reference for the Union Royal Commission broadened to include investigation into the political donations of all Australian political parties.

Note – FIRB indicated that there was no national body tasked with the job of establishing whether investment from Chinese state and other companies was from ill-gotten gains.



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3. **Involuntary Detox and Rehabilitation powers given by legislation to Australian parents.**

Citizens whose children are medically diagnosed as addicted to Ice or other illicit / illegal drugs should have the rights under law to provide nonconsensual detox and rehabilitation for their offspring.

4. **ADF pay increase of a further 1% is granted immediately**

In order to honor the Liberal government's promise to protect Defence families' income from inflation and other social pressures - this government grants a one off 1% pay rise to the ADF and agrees to pass Senator Lambie's private members' bill in the lower house which links future pay rises to that of politicians or the CPI – whichever is the greater.

5. **Defence Veterans' Health Gold Card**

Veterans' Gold Card must be automatically awarded to former members of the Australian Defence Forces, including Peacekeepers /Federal Police officers who have served overseas in war-like and war zones.

This will save our Veterans from the considerable harm they experience fighting the government to obtain the best medical treatment Australia can offer.

6. **Voluntary National Service Scheme (NSTAS- National Service Trade and Apprentice Scheme) –**

NSTAS must be created in order to boost ADF full time personnel numbers, while providing a guaranteed employment and training pathway in our ADF - for the new generations of young Australians who wish to volunteer and serve their country.

Note: if future generations of young Australians fail to earn, learn or serve without proper medical exemptions, they will also fail to qualify for any government welfare payments.

7. **Diggers' Act**

Australian Diggers Act to be introduced, which guarantees that former members of the Australian military with qualifying service – are entitled to free university education or trade training on completion of service to the ADF.

Note – JLN Diggers' Act will be similar in purpose to America's G.I. Bill. It will offer a reward for dedicated service and protection for Diggers well-being, while it assists their transition to civilian life.

8. **National Prime Agricultural Land Protection Policy**

The total amount of prime agricultural land which covers Australia is 3.4% of our nation's land mass.

With such a small area of Australia containing our best farming land and underground water supplies, the government must legislate to prevent this irreplaceable asset from being destroyed by development and mining projects.



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Developments like the Chinese state owned coal-mine on the NSW Liverpool plains (Shenhua) must never be allowed to proceed.

9. China Free Trade deal Scrapped and Re-negotiated

A new ChAFTA deal should be re-negotiated which takes into account:

- a. Chinese Communist Ruling elites' contempt and disregard for other citizens' civil rights, rule of law, fiscal accountability and transparency, international conventions / treaties, respect of intellectual property ownership and responsible use of military force.
- b. Australian National sovereignty, workers' job security, downward pressure on workers' wages and conditions.

10. Nuclear Power National Public Education Program and Debate

A national education program and debate should be funded for 3 to 4 years and followed by a referendum, which asks the people of Australia whether a Nuclear power industry should be established or not?

11. Coastal Shipping Policy and the Future of Australian Shipping

National Maritime policy and legislation to be developed by consultation and conciliation with all the major stakeholders in Australia's maritime industry.

Note, that the government's existing Coastal Shipping legislation is deeply flawed and is a deliberate plan to kill Australian maritime workers' jobs and endangers the future of all Australian shipping,

In response to this bad legislation a process involving the majority of maritime stakeholders - has been created by Senator Lambie, Unions and Business groups to draft alternative and better Coastal Shipping Legislation and policy to protect and boost all Australian Shipping.

12. Royal Commission into Veterans' Welfare and Defence Abuse

Royal Commission must be established which examines:

The official cover-up of defence abuse and reasons behind the extraordinary rates of Veterans' and ADF members' suicides and self-harm.

13. Financial Transactions Tax

FTT should be introduced which targets companies who gain an unfair and insiders' advantage over ordinary mum and dad investors on the Australian financial markets - using supercomputers, advanced software and high speed share trading.



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14. Youth Leadership and Military Style / Boot Camp Programs

At risk youth early intervention programs similar to the Hard Yakka program in Hervey Bay (see attached folder) - to be established nationally, in order to educate and train at-risk-youth deemed too difficult to be coached by conventional social youth programs.

15. National Organized Crime Laws –

National Laws similar to the United States' RICO legislation - developed in co-operation with all state and territory governments - to attack and address crimes by those associated with all forms of Organized Criminal gangs.

16. Extremist Ideology (Nazism & Sharia Law) and Hate Preachers banned in Australia.

Sharia Law advocates and Islamic hate-preachers should be charged with sedition and/or treason in order to protect National security and public interests.

All who advocate for, or support Nazism charged with offences and crimes similar to those existing in Germany and other countries - in order to protect our National security and public interests.

17. Government National Procurement policy

All Government purchases of goods and services should always positively discriminate in favor of and buy Australian made goods and services, where possible.

The Government establishes a procurement investigation - which critically examines the conditions of all government contracts, with a view to increasing the involvement of more Australian owned and staffed companies.

18. Gas Reserve Policy

A domestic gas reserve policy between 20% to 30% must be established in order to combat rising domestic prices - driven by shortages created by LNG export projects.

It is an insult to Australians who collectively own our nations' enormous natural resources – that among such abundance, we are forced to pay higher and higher prices for our gas and electricity.

Note: If the Australian government fails to ensure that our energy prices are not lower than our international competitors – then irresistible pressure will be placed on Australian workers' wages and conditions.

19. Dedicated indigenous seats – to address endemic disadvantage

In order to address indigenous disadvantage JLN urges the Government to ensure that every piece of legislation, which passes through the Lower House and Senate, is spoken to and scrutinized from an indigenous perspective.



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A solution to address indigenous people's disadvantage and proper scrutiny of legislation (and the ability to introduce private members bills) would be the establishment of dedicated indigenous seats into our federal parliament.

Because we have 3 to 4% of indigenous people in Australia, then our federal parliament should be guaranteed 3 to 4% of elected indigenous representatives.

Overseas experience and studies* indicate that there are clear links between indigenous wellbeing/disadvantage and the amount of indigenous representation in national parliaments.

New Zealand has had dedicated seats in their Parliament for Maori people since 1867** - and the gap between Maori disadvantage/mortality (8.5 years) is not as large as Australia's first people (23.2 years) – and is closing, not widening.

20. Enhanced Pensioner loan scheme

The Pension Loans Scheme (PLS) was introduced in 1985, at the same time as an assets test for pensions. The idea for the scheme came from the Panel of Review of Proposed Income and Assets Tests headed by Professor Fred Gruen.¹

The review recognised that some people had assets that were 'illiquid'. As well as assets where it was difficult to find buyers, there were also assets that were difficult to sell for social or psychological reasons.

The review argued that "some provisions should exist which would ensure that people in such circumstances are not unintentionally left destitute." It proposed a pension loans scheme as a solution.²

JLN supports a change to the current PLS which will allow a greater number of pensioners access to the scheme and authorise them to supplement their pensions by a larger PLS payment.

21. Negative Gearing

JLN notes that in a balanced and complete debate on Tax reform the option to reform provisions relating to Negative Gearing must be considered.

JLN also notes that parliamentary research reports that In 2012-13, **1,260,470** individuals reported a '**net rent – loss**' on their tax return, that is, they have negatively geared property. And the majority or 72% of the 1.2M Australian people with interests in a rental property or approximately 900,000 tax-payers have at least one property negatively geared.

JLN considers that most fair minded Australians would consider 1 or 2 negatively geared properties - is a reasonable number of investment properties and is prepared to closely listen to a community debate and feedback, about whether Australia should allow people with 3 or more investment properties to negatively gear.



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22. Australian Troops to return from Iraq

With only 3000 American Troops on the ground in Iraq - we have no hope of winning any war against ISIS. America and the rest of the world would have to put at least 100,000 plus troops on the ground, to stop the advances of the Islamic State.

If, as Australian Strategic Policy Institute executive director Peter Jennings suggests, Australian troops' role is upgraded from "advise and assist" to "advise, assist and accompany" it is a recipe for disaster.

Therefore JLN supports the return to Australia of ADF personnel currently deployed to Iraq. This will save Australians approximately - \$4b plus over the forward estimates.

23. Fair pensions indexation for Veterans' and TPI holders.

In May of 2014 the Treasurer announced to all totally and permanently injured veterans' great disappointment, the proposal to revert a now well-established indexation mechanism applied to Veterans' Disability Compensation Payments back to a measure of CPI only, starting from September 2017.

This proposal is in stark contrast to the welcomed bi-partisan announcement and support initiated by Howard Government legislation in September 2007 of "fair" indexation as measured to the better of CPI / PBLCI / MTAWA.

JLN urges the scrapping of the current system of indexation and the reinstatement of the Howard Government legislation which ensures "fair" indexation as measured to the better of CPI / PBLCI / MTAWA.

24. TAFE Boost & Institutional Pathways

JLN urges the federal government to encourage state governments by all means and methods including grants - to revitalize TAFE by the introduction of guaranteed Trade Training and Apprenticeship positions – regardless of whether students have obtained employment.

Students would begin trade and apprenticeship training funded and supported by commonwealth grants. These institutional pathways would operate regardless of market demand for trade trainees or apprentices.

This "train and the employers will come" policy – will help address skills shortages and provide hope for Children from disadvantaged communities who will receive special consideration.

25. Foreign Aid

JLN notes that despite well published cuts – the modern Foreign Aid budget still means that Australia will borrow approx. \$16B and give it away in poorly targeted foreign payments.

JLN supports a halving of the Foreign Aid Budget in order to help boost federal government investment in Higher Education from .6% to 1% of GDP.



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26. Carbon Tax and ETS

JLN opposes the introduction of a carbon tax or ETS – until after our major trading partners introduce a similar tax for their energy use.

27. Cost of Power & Energy

JLN supports a monitoring and regulation system - which ensures that our power and fuel prices for Australian consumers and businesses are not more expensive than our overseas competitors.

JLN notes: If the Australian government fails to ensure that our energy prices are not lower than our international competitors – then irresistible pressure will be placed on Australian workers' wages and conditions.

28. GST Amendments

JLN opposes any move to change or increase the GST rate of 10%. And notes that a FTT (Financial Transactions Tax) will have been introduced into many countries of Europe by 2016.

Why talk about changes to our GST, which will target Australia's poor - when a tax can be targeted at Australia's 6 super rich high speed share-trading companies.

29. Food Drops in Syria – begin “Biscuit Bombing”

The Australian Government is conducting a RAAF bombing campaign in Iraq to interdict and disrupt ISIS. However, Bombing missions are not going to defeat ISIS or its proxies. Examination of the role of air interdiction in Bosnia and Kosovo demonstrate that its role is limited.

JLN supports the immediate and sustained drop by military aircraft of food and other humanitarian goods in Syria.

The UNHCR has registered over 4,000,000 refugees who have fled the conflict in Syria. The actual number of internally displaced persons in Syria is likely to be of equal magnitude. Further, there are likely to be many thousands of Syrian refugees who are not registered with the UNHCR. Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq currently are shouldering the burden for vast numbers of refugees.

The RAAF is already operating in the Middle East Area of Operations (MEAO). Deployed RAAF personnel have regional and operational experience. Air Lift Group (ALG) has served in the Iraq conflict with distinction. RAAF C130s have delivered material - air drop – successfully in this region.

Australian Government considers the aerial delivery of aid drop “BISCUIT BOMBING” to civilians in Syria regardless of where civilians (non-combatants) are located. A non-partisan approach will cover the delivery of food aid to government and ISIS controlled localities.

Air drop or “BISCUIT BOMBING” is a practiced evolution of RAAF C130 crews in ALG. Delivery of food aid will immediately alleviate suffering and help establish the interest of Western Nations in finding a working solution other than offensive operations.



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Delivery of food aid via air drop may begin to reduce the numbers of Syrians fleeing. RAAF delivery of food aid will be a boon to RAAF and wider ADF morale.

RAAF delivery of food aid will improve the standing of the Australian Government. Delivery of vital aid will demonstrate Australia's interest in saving lives. Delivery of aid does not inhibit or preclude a bombing campaign. Both air operations are able to co-exist.

Medical aid can be delivered by air drop to known hospital locations.

Delivery of food, and medical aid will save lives.

Air-drop or "BISCUIT BOMBING" will undermine and destabilize the authority of Isis brutes – who use access to food and water as another means of enslaving the populations of conquered territories.

Note: Policy was devised with the assistance of Hugh Dolan, a retired Australian Defence Force Intelligence officer and Senate candidate for JLN Victoria.

30. Plebiscite at next election – Same-sex marriage and Indigenous recognition

JLN wants the people of Australia to be able to directly express their opinion through a popular vote on Indigenous recognition and same-sex marriage.

JLN therefore calls on the government to make all preparations necessary to hold a plebiscite/referendum at the next election to decide these two extremely important questions.

Yours faithfully

Senator Jacqui Lambie
Senator for Tasmania