

**Submission  
No 434**

**INQUIRY INTO THE MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX  
CHURCH PROPERTY TRUST BILL 2010**

**Name:** Mr Vladimir Strezov

**Date Received:** 19 August 2010

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Dear Honourable Mr John Ajaka,

As one of the members of the Macedonian community in Australia I had the opportunity to visit the NSW Parliament on few occasions and discuss the Macedonian Orthodox Church Property Trust Bill with the Hon Reverend Fred Nile, with Mr Anthony Roberts (member of the Liberal Party) and with the Director General Mr Laurie Glanfield. I am very pleased that after fruitful discussions with the members of the NSW parliament and after incorporating all of the points raised on these meetings as amendments to the Bill we are now awaiting a vote at the NSW Parliament.

I would like to express my unreserved support for the Bill because of these reasons:

1. The Bill is NOT against any other faith, Church or member of community who does not belong to the Macedonian Orthodox Church or to those members belonging to the Macedonian Orthodox Church but who do not wish their community properties to fall under the Bill.
2. The Bill is FOR those properties that belong to the Macedonian Orthodox Church and for every member of the Macedonian community in NSW who belongs to and attends missions of the Macedonian Orthodox Church in NSW.
3. The Bill will ensure equal opportunity rights and will align Macedonian Orthodox Church with all other faiths and religions that have legal protection under the same Bill in NSW.
4. The Bill will not resolve past or current problems within the Macedonian community in NSW but will prevent future disputes because every new Church that will be built in the state of NSW in the future will be registered under the Bill, hence the legal mess that the community currently faces over management of Church properties will be prevented.

I am aware that members of the Macedonian community in NSW who do not belong to the Macedonian Orthodox Church and/or representatives from companies and associations who are not affected by the Bill, are offered opportunity to dispute the Bill at the NSW Parliament on Monday 23 August. While it is always interesting to hear the other side, I hope that you and your honourable colleagues at the NSW Parliament will consider the fact that the Bill is NOT against anyone, but FOR the benefit of the community and the state of NSW, hence the positive vote of the Bill will be of vast importance to all.

I will be looking forward to the outcomes of the discussion on Monday.

With sincere regards,

Vladimir Strezov