

How to Write Your Letter/Email:

1. Start with a Personal Connection:

Begin by introducing yourself as a concerned Australian citizen. Share a personal reason why free speech and the ability to question those in power is important to you. This could be an example of how government policies have affected you, your family, or your community.

You could mention a time when being able to speak out or access honest information helped you stand up for what's right—whether it's for your children's education, healthcare, or another issue that resonates with you.

Example:

“As a parent deeply concerned about my children's future, I believe it's crucial that we preserve our right to speak openly and freely about issues that affect us. Without this, Australians will lose the ability to challenge harmful policies and hold our leaders accountable.”

2. Highlight the Senator's Values:

Show that you are familiar with the senator's key issues and why they should care about your message. This will make your letter feel personalized and relevant to them.

Mention the specific values they care about (see their profiles below), and explain how the MAD Bill directly threatens those values.

Example for Senator Lambie:

“Senator Lambie, you've been a tireless advocate for veterans and mental health services. I'm concerned that this bill will prevent veterans, their families, and their advocates from speaking out against harmful policies that directly affect them. Silencing these voices is not only unjust, it's dangerous for those who need the most support.”

3. Explain the Broader Consequences:

Discuss how the MAD Bill will not only impact everyday Australians, but also senators themselves once they leave office.

Make it clear that this bill will strip away protections for all Australians and will create a chilling effect on free speech across the board, even for future political leaders and advocates.

Example:

“This bill doesn’t just hurt Australians now—it will affect you when you no longer have parliamentary privilege. Once you leave office, you could be silenced and penalized for speaking out against the government. We cannot let this bill pass and risk the future of free speech in our country.”

4. Be Polite but Firm in Your Request:

Close your letter with a respectful yet clear ask. Directly ask the senator to vote **NO** on the MAD Bill, explaining that it’s critical to preserve Australia’s democratic values and the rights of its people. Make it clear that this vote will shape their legacy as someone who stood up for justice.

Example:

“I urge you, Senator, to vote NO on the MAD Bill and stand up for the rights of Australians to speak freely. This is your opportunity to protect the future of free speech and ensure our democracy remains strong.”

5. Offer a Sincere Thank You:

Finish by thanking the senator for their work and their consideration of your concerns. Acknowledge their efforts in other areas and let them know you appreciate their commitment to Australia.

Example:

“Thank you for all the hard work you do for our country, and I hope you will take my concerns into account when this bill comes to a vote. Australia needs leaders like you to stand up for our rights.”

Every voice counts. Let’s fight to protect our freedom and ensure that future generations have the right to speak up and hold their leaders accountable.

Key Points to Address for Each Senator

Senator Jacqui Lambie

Email: senator.lambie@aph.gov.au

Postal Address:

PO Box 256
Burnie, TAS, 7320

Or: PO Box 6100
Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Stands for: *Veterans' rights, mental health, standing up and against big politics.*

Highlight how the MAD Bill will hurt veterans and their ability to speak up about the health services and support they need. Stress that this bill is another example of politicians trying to silence the people she fights for. Emphasize how much Australians rely on her for protection from overreaching policies.

Senator David Pocock

Email: Senator.David.Pocock@aph.gov.au

Postal Address:

PO Box 705
Gungahlin, ACT, 2912

Or: PO Box 6100
Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Stands for: *Climate action, human rights, political integrity.*

Appeal to David's strong commitment to *human rights* and *political transparency*. Explain that this bill will stifle activism and reduce the public's ability to challenge environmental injustices or government corruption. Urge him to protect the public's right to speak out on these critical issues.

Senator Tammy Tyrrell

Email: senator.tyrrell@aph.gov.au

Postal Address:

PO Box 1087
Launceston, TAS, 7250

Or: PO Box 6100
Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Stands for: *Cost of living, healthcare access, regional development.*

Point out that people in regional areas and those struggling with *cost of living* need to speak out about the policies that directly impact them. Emphasize that silencing these voices will only worsen the struggle for fair *healthcare and living standards* for those she cares about.

Senator Fatima Payman

Email: senator.payman@aph.gov.au

Postal Address:

GPO Box B58
Perth, WA, 6838

Or: PO Box 6100
Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Stands for: *Human rights, supporting marginalized groups, youth engagement.*

Stress that the MAD Bill will disproportionately hurt marginalized voices and young people. Point out that *immigrants, minorities, and youth*, whose voices are often underrepresented, will be the first to suffer under these restrictions, and remind her of her commitment to *justice and fair representation*.

Senator Lidia Thorpe

Email: senator.thorpe@aph.gov.au

Postal Address:

PO Box 1526, 186-188 Smith Street
Collingwood, VIC, 3066

Or: PO Box 6100
Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Stands for: *Indigenous rights, environmental protection, anti-racism.*

Appeal to Lidia's advocacy for *Indigenous sovereignty and anti-racism*. Make it clear that this bill will silence Indigenous voices and prevent vital conversations about land rights, environmental justice, and systemic racism. Emphasize that the MAD Bill is a threat to the very causes she fights for.

Senator David Van

Email: senator.van@aph.gov.au

Postal Address:

18 Park Road
Cheltenham, VIC, 3192

OR: PO Box 6100
Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Stands for: *National security, environment, equality.*

Highlight how this bill will prevent public scrutiny of *national security and environmental policies*. Remind David that transparency is key to a strong democracy, and the bill will erode trust between the government and its people. Ask him to protect the principles of *justice and fairness* that he supports.