Thursday 8 March 2012

**Australian musicians join the campaign to stop Stronger Futures**

Earlier this week, Our Generation Media, in partnership with ANTaR, launched a major online campaign, Stand For Freedom, to demand the withdrawal of the controversial Stronger Futures legislation.

10,000 people have already signed the petition, and many more are expected to follow with the release of the latest campaign video, featuring musicians John Butler, Archie Roach, Shane Howard, Shellie Morris and Danielle Caruana (Mama Kin).

The Senate Community Affairs Committee is expected to report next week, and it is anticipated that the legislation will be put to a vote soon afterwards. The campaign's message has never been more urgent.

“There is so much opposition to this legislation. I myself filmed four of the Government’s consultations in the Top End last year, and saw what communities really asked of the Government. This legislation does not reflect what Aboriginal people want,” said Sinem Saban, co-director of Our Generation Media.

“Aboriginal communities and civil society organisations across the nation are in uproar against it, but their voices are being ignored by the Government. This campaign is about letting the wider public know what’s going on, and making sure that we fulfil our responsibility as a democratic nation. The Government can’t ignore the will of the people,” Ms Saban said.

John Butler, a long time supporter of Our Generation Media’s work, said: “Any policy that discriminates against people on the basis of their race is fundamentally wrong. This legislation wants to continue the trauma of the Intervention for 10 more years. We have to put a stop to it.”

“We are proud to be supporting this campaign which seeks to give voice to the concerns of affected communities. The strong public response shows that these concerns are shared by many other Australians,” said Jacqueline Phillips, ANTaR National Director.

The Stand For Freedom campaign aims to add thousands more signatures by the end of next week, before the Senate votes on the legislation.
The Stand for Freedom campaign and its new video can be found at: http://stand-forfreedom.org.au

For more info on Our Generation Media, go to: www.ourgeneration.org.au

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