

Tyhileka madubela - Oppose - SA Weather Service Amendment Bill 2011

From: Joan Van Der Merwe
To:
Date: 2012/01/14 02:09 PM
Subject: Oppose - SA Weather Service Amendment Bill 2011

Greetings, Ms Tyhileka Madubela,

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Department of Environmental Affairs - Republic of South Africa.

Stop the "Weather Law"- "Strengthening of the work of the Weather Service through the South African Weather Service Amendment Bill, 2011"

Should this bill be passed it will result in anyone posting a Weather Warning using any public means such as SMS, Twitter, Facebook, WWW etc. that is not 'officially sanctioned' to a fine of R5 000 000.00 / 5 years jail and any subsequent 'transgression' R10 000 000.00 / 10 years Jail.

This is outrageous in itself but becomes more so when the aim of these postings are taken into consideration as they are of a helpful nature and a fore-warning based on current conditions being experienced by the public itself.

The so called 'transgression' not only infringes on rights entrenched in our constitution but makes a mockery of basic rights of humanity - namely the right to warn a fellow human of possible danger they may encounter.

We respectfully request statistics that show the need for a Law such as this - as far as we are aware no harm has ever been done that may be attributed to or as a direct result of any posting - that may warrant such an abusive Law.

We support the sentiments and reasons given, namely that of protecting the public from harm due to panic caused by false warnings but firmly state that this is not going to achieve that aim and request that the committee and the Department apply these sentiments and aim where it shall actually bring about that goal - the Bill as it stands shall simply gag the public from assisting Government as well as fellow citizens.

Sincerely,

Joan Van Der Merwe
Langebaan, South Africa

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/oppose-the-proposed-weather-service-amendment-bill-2011. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 