

**Tyhileka madubela - weather service amendment bill**

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**From:** Pim Zandee  
**To:**  
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**Subject:** weather service amendment bill

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*I am the end user of weather forecasting (including sea and swell details, frontal developments and other meteorological information & warnings provided by a professional entity who may have to close his business and retrench his staff because of amendments to the act.*

*The criminalization and provisions for massive penalties will force independent weather forecast providers to cease warning of impending severe weather, the effect of this will be to put the lives of mariners and ships at risk as only independent weather providers warn in sufficient time of severe weather.*

*My personal need for accurate, timeous and detailed information has to do with National Maritime Disasters i.e. ships aground, ships on fire, ships sinking, abandoned ships – all instances where actual and forecast weather play an important role in the prevention of loss of life and property. In addition, in the event of oil spillage at sea it is critical to accurately be able to forecast the direction and drift of an oil slick to enable preventative oil pollution measures to be taken*

*Be aware that there are numerous foreign companies that provide good weather information on a global basis – readily accessible on the Internet. It would thus mean that users such as I would have to contract with a foreign entity to the detriment of a South African one!*

*I would thus strongly recommend that the Act does not in any way limit the ability of non-departmental entities to continue their activities – we are living in a time of dramatic climate change!!*

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