



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **ACT Youth Peak Supports Human Rights for Children & Young People in Detention**

The Youth Coalition of the ACT strongly supports human rights as a key feature of the *Children and Young People's Bill 2007* and the administration of the new youth detention centre. We are pleased that the ACT had become a leading jurisdiction in Australia in treating young people in accordance with human rights principles.

The Youth Coalition is pleased that the Bill actions the excellent work done by the ACT Human Rights Office to protect the basic human rights of the Territory's most vulnerable constituents - children and young people in detention.

This is an excellent example of how the ACT *Human Rights Act 2004* is informing and underpinning public policy in the ACT.

Carrie Fowlie, Acting Director of the Youth Coalition, said "We support many of the actions taken to implement the recommendations of the Human Rights Audit of the Quamby Youth Detention Centre."

"We support the detailed procedural and administrative processes for the youth detention centre that have been included in this legislation. They set out the basic rules that staff at the detention centre should follow when working with children and young people in detention."

"We encourage young people, the youth sector and the community to comment on this Bill to ensure that the changes made ensure that young people are offered the best possible care and support."

**For further information or comment contact Carrie Fowlie on 6247 3540 or 0406-585-020**