

Greens MP refers Cardinal Pell *consequences* threat to Upper House Privileges Committee

Greens MP Lee Rhiannon will ask the NSW Upper House Privileges Committee to determine if Cardinal Pell is in contempt of NSW Parliament for his comments about what will happen to Catholic MPs who support the cloning bill. =

*I believe Cardinal Pell*s statement, that there will be *consequences* for Catholic MPs who do not vote against the cloning bill, is an attempt to coerce MPs into voting against the therapeutic cloning bill,* Ms Rhiannon said.

*I have written to the Upper House President, Mr Peter Primrose, requesting that he refers this matter to the NSW Upper House Privileges Committee. =

*It is important that the Privileges Committee consider this matter as quickly as possible as it appears that Cardinal Pell has overstepped the bounds of acceptable lobbying practices. =

*Cardinal Pell's statement that there will be *consequences* in MPs religious lives if they vote for the bill constitutes a threat to Catholic MPs. =

*The fact that Cardinal Pell says a MP voting in support of the bill might 'loosen' their bonds with the church suggests his comments are an attempt to coerce support for his position on this issue.

"Cardinal Pell has enormous power and he should consider using it appropriately.

"If I was a Catholic MP I would be embarrassed by the Cardinal's comments. =

"If the Privileges Committee considers Cardinal Pell's behaviour it would be in a position to warn Cardinal Pell that he should modify his behaviour in future,* Ms Rhiannon said. =

Contact: Lee Rhiannon 9230 3551, 0427 861 568

Lee Rhiannon, MLC
The Greens
Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie St =

Sydney 2000
Tel: +61-2-9230 3551 Fax: +61-2-9230 3550
Email lee.rhiannon@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Web <http://www.lee.greens.org.au/>

If you wish to receive The Greens Parliamentary Ebrieff please send a return email with the word SUBSCRIBE in the subject line. (This ebrieff comes out approximately every fortnight.)

To get Greens media releases emailed, sign up at =

<<http://lists.greens.org.au/mailman/listinfo/media>>

----- next part -----

An embedded and charset-unspecified text was scrubbed...

Name: Lee Rhiannon.vcf

Url: [http://lists.greens.org.au/pipermail/lists.greens.org.au/media/attachm=](http://lists.greens.org.au/pipermail/lists.greens.org.au/media/attachments/20070606/41bbd272/LeeRhiannon.ksh)
[ents/20070606/41bbd272/LeeRhiannon.ksh](http://lists.greens.org.au/pipermail/lists.greens.org.au/media/attachments/20070606/41bbd272/LeeRhiannon.ksh)