



The Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister

Reference: C13/27986

Senator the Hon Bob Carr
 Minister for Foreign Affairs
 Parliament House
 CANBERRA ACT 2600

27 MAY 2013

Bob
 Dear Minister

I am writing to seek your views in relation to the attached proposal brought to my attention by ^{s11C} [REDACTED], relating to the *Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal* (HOSM).

The HOSM is administered in the Prime Minister's portfolio and I am responsible for honours policy matters in the Prime Minister's portfolio. I seek your views because the proposal relates to extending eligibility for the HOSM to ^{s11C} [REDACTED] ^{s11C} [REDACTED] in 2004.

Generally speaking, the Australian Government has not recommended for-profit organisations for recognition through the HOSM, on the grounds that the organisations, in comparison with not-for-profit organisations, are not principally humanitarian organisations. Consistent with that position, the HOSM declaration for humanitarian operations in Iraq specifies that for-profit organisations and their employees are not eligible.

The organisations that are eligible for the HOSM (Iraq) are not-for-profit organisations: the Australian Red Cross, CARE Australia, World Vision Australia, and the Australian contingents to the International Committee of the Red Cross, to United Nations organisations and to the rehabilitation program in Iraq carried out by the Coalition Provisional Authority.

I would be grateful for your views on whether ^{s11C} [REDACTED] under ^{s11C} [REDACTED] are comparable to the humanitarian operations of the not-for-profit organisations declared eligible and whether you would support an exception to the Government's general policy position regarding medallic recognition of for-profit organisations and individuals in this case.

s11C is aware that I will respond to his letter and to any correspondence from
s11C on the matter, after receiving your views on the proposal.

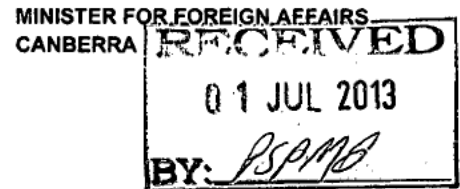
Yours sincerely

s22

Andrew Leigh



SENATOR THE HON BOB CARR



26 JUN 2013

Dr Andrew Leigh MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Leigh

Thank you for your letter of May 27, 2013 regarding the eligibility of the ^{s11C} [REDACTED] ^{s11C} [REDACTED] for the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal for Iraq.

^{s11C} [REDACTED] has previously been in contact with ^{s11C} [REDACTED] and Prime Minister and Cabinet officials seeking recognition for the services ^{s11C} [REDACTED] provided to ^{s11C} [REDACTED] in 2003–05. I support this request and note ^{s11C} [REDACTED] ^{s11C} [REDACTED] have endorsed an earlier request in December 2010 (letters attached). As noted by ^{s11C} [REDACTED] there are precedents to open the eligibility of the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal to commercial entities where these services are essential to the Government's work.

^{s11C} [REDACTED]

^{s11C} [REDACTED] Without these services across the period September 2003 to June 2005, ^{s11C} [REDACTED] would not have been able to maintain an effective civilian presence and to conduct Australia's recovery programs for the Iraqi people.

Your positive consideration of the matter is appreciated.

Yours sincerely

^{s22} [REDACTED]

Bob Carr