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**GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS**

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**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT****NOTICE 698 OF 2016****INVITATION TO COMMENT ON THE PREVENTION AND COMBATING OF HATE  
CRIMES AND HATE SPEECH BILL: DEADLINE FOR COMMENT 1 DECEMBER 2016**

1. The draft Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill (hereinafter referred to as “the Bill”) aims to-

- \* give effect to the Republic’s obligations in terms of the Constitution and international human rights instruments concerning racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in accordance with international law obligations;
- \* provide for the offence of hate crimes and the offence of hate speech and the prosecution of persons who commit those crimes;
- \* provide for appropriate sentences that may be imposed on persons who commit hate crime and hate speech offences;
- \* provide for the prevention of hate crimes and hate speech;
- \* provide for the reporting on the implementation, application and administration of this Act;
- \* amend certain Acts of Parliament consequentially; and
- \* provide for matters connected therewith.

2. The Bill is available for download on the website of the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, at the following address: <http://www.justice.gov.za>. Alternatively, a copy of the Bill will be made available on request, which request should be directed to the person referred to in paragraph 4 below.

3. Any person wishing to comment on the Bill is invited to submit written comments to the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development on or before 1 December 2016.

Comments should be marked for the attention of **T Ross**:

(a) if they are forwarded by post, be addressed to -

**The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development**

**Private Bag X81**

**PRETORIA**

**0001;**

(b) if delivered by hand, be delivered at -

**The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development**

**Salu Building**

**316 Thabo Sehume Street (Corner of Thabo Sehume and Francis Baard Streets)**

**PRETORIA;**

(c) if they are delivered by E-mail, they can be sent to: **hatecrimes@justice.gov.za**; or

(d) if it is faxed, they can be faxed to **012 406 4632**.

4. For further information, please contact T Ross at **012 406 4759**.