



www.citizensforabetterbahamas.org

4th August, 2015

The Hon. Jerome Fitzgerald M.P.
Minister of Education, Science and Technology
The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
Thompson Boulevard, P.O. Box N-3913/14
Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas

Dear Minister Fitzgerald:

Re: Freedom of Information Bill, 2015

I am writing to you on behalf of Citizens for a Better Bahamas (CBB), a non-partisan civil society organization with a primary mission to promote reforms that encourage and improve transparency and accountability in all sectors of Bahamian society. The purpose of my letter is to convey CBB's recommendations for the Freedom of Information Bill, 2015.

CBB supports the government's commitment in ensuring that an effective Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) is enacted soon, and further acknowledges the government's pledge to engage the public in this process through consultation and town hall meetings throughout The Bahamas. In this regard, CBB has reviewed the proposed Freedom of Information Bill and made recommendations for the same. Accordingly, I have enclosed CBB's recommendations with this letter, for a consideration to be made by the FOIA committee.

We trust that the FOIA committee would take all responses from the public into consideration. Furthermore, CBB calls on the government to push forward in enacting a viable FOIA, as government transparency and accountability is pivotal for the country's development.

Yours faithfully,

Lemarque Campbell
Policy Subcommittee Chairman
Citizens for a Better Bahamas
lemarque.campbell@citizensforabetterbahamas.org

Enclosure