



## Tony Burke MP

MEMBER FOR WATSON

Dr. Gina Lennox  
Co-Chair, Public Officer,  
Kurdish Lobby Australia

Dear Dr. Lennox,

Thank you for writing to me on the current issues faced by Kurdish communities in Iraq, Syria and Turkey.

Labor acknowledges the suffering of the Kurdish people and recognises the community's deep concern regarding the issue of Kurdish autonomy.

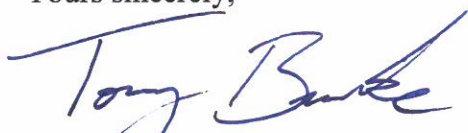
Labor will continue to call for a peaceful resolution to the conflict between the Turkish Government and members of the Kurdish community and will be vocal in condemning attacks on civilians and all forms of terrorism.

In Syria, for the conflict to end, a political solution must be found that recognises grievances of the many ethnic and religious groups within Syria, including the Kurds. The diplomatic effort towards peace in Syria is being driven by the United Nations, led by UN Special Envoy for Syria, Staffan de Mistura. A Labor government would fully commit to supporting these efforts in actions, as well as words.

In Iraq, Kurdish autonomy has been a reality since 1992. Labor acknowledges the successes of the Kurdistan Regional Government in bringing stability to the north of the country, and hope a solution can be found whereby an autonomous Kurdish region remains part of Iraq.

Labor acknowledges that in situations of conflict, the monitoring and defence of human rights becomes more pressing. We are working hard to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights remains at the core of achieving a peaceful and secure world where people can live in freedom and dignity.

Yours sincerely,



Tony Burke