

**Govt. Land Grab plans put in place a month before the 'emergency measures' announced.**

Mal Brough introduced a the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment (Township Leasing) Bill 2007* to parliament on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2007 - **more than one month before** the Australian Government received the *Little Children are Sacred* report and announced their 'national emergency measures'.

Go to the links below to the Australian Parliament website for the Bill List, Bill text and Explanatory Memorandum.

<http://www.aph.gov.au/parlinfo/billsnet/blist.pdf>

[http://parlinfoweb.aph.gov.au/piweb/view\\_document.aspx?ID=2553&TABLE=BILLS](http://parlinfoweb.aph.gov.au/piweb/view_document.aspx?ID=2553&TABLE=BILLS)

<http://parlinfoweb.aph.gov.au/piweb/browse.aspx?NodeID=223>

The Bill provides for the Office of the Executive Director of Township Leasing to be established, to manage for a period of 5 years, leases granted to the Commonwealth under section 19A of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act*.

The Government will take \$15 million from the Aboriginal Benefits Account (ie. 'land rights' royalty money held on trust) to establish and run the office over five years from 2006/07 to 2010/11.

The Australian government has cynically disguised its land grab in the emotional cloak of 'child protection' – the mechanisms for the land grab were already being put in place.

Please note that I in no way discount the importance of urgently addressing instances of child abuse where and when they exist, but the land issue is a separate unrelated matter.

Ric Norton