Rev. Alan D McDonald, Convener, Church of Scotland, Committee on Church and Nation, 121 George Street, EDINBURGH EH2 4YN

27 Donnini Court South Beach Road, AYR KA7 1JP

12 May 2004.

SHIRLEY MCKIE

On behalf of Shirley and our family can I thank the Assembly for accepting the motion of support presented by Findlay Turner. We were greatly encouraged that it was passed unanimously and with such courtesy and warmth.

I can well understand your difficulties in considering the matter for debate given that in some ways you only had one side of the story. That is the way it is sometimes when trying to fight 'injustice' and I am grateful that the Assembly did not 'pass by on the other side'.

Shirley and our family applaud Mr Turner's decision to pursue this matter in the Assembly and applaud the Church of Scotland for reaching out to Shirley in her time of need.

This is the first time I have attended the Assembly. I left encouraged at the high standard of debate and with the feeling that we were in a place where the voice of the individual could speak out against the State without fear.

Please pass on our thanks to Rosemary Brodie and everyone involved in making our visit so memorable.

I have attached a 'Statement of Facts' concerning Shirley's treatment. Every word can be verified and please feel free to contact me if this is necessary or you require further copies.

With best wishes for your endeavours in the future.

Iain	A	J	McKie
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