

**John Devereux****Labor Senator for Tasmania**

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Mr. J. Michael Quinlan  
Director of Federal Bureau of Prisons  
320 First Street  
NW WASHINGTON DC 20534

Dear Mr. Quinlan,

I have recently read of the plight of prisoners in control unit prisons in the U.S.. If conditions are as reported, I wish to express my strongest concern. I consider that conditions of imprisonment, such as the lockdown at Marion, where it is reported that prisoners are being held in their cells for 22.5 hours a day, with almost complete lack of recreation, no contact visits, and separation from other prisoners, etc. are an abuse of their human rights.

According to Amnesty International Marion violates almost every one of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. Such degrading and sensory deprivation conditions cannot possibly help in rehabilitating people and so I am shocked to learn that a new "advanced model" control unit prison is being built at Florence for the purpose of permanent lockdown.

If the information that has been drawn to my attention is correct, then I wish to express my opposition to the system of control unit prisons, and call on the U.S. Government to close Marion, Marianna and all other control units, and to stop the construction of any new ones such as Florence.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'John Devereux'.

John Devereux