

MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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Irregular to promote info bill with government money

“The Christian Democratic Party (CDP) is deeply concerned with the advertisement of the Bill on ‘the protection of state information’ on the public broadcaster by the department of National State Security,” says CDP leader, Rev. Theunis Botha. “Highly contentious so-called ‘benefits’ of the bill are promoted in these ads.

“We believe it is extremely irregular that tax payers’ money should be used to promote, what is at best, the policy of only one party – the ANC. It has not yet been signed into law, and a number of parties and institutions have indicated that should it be, the constitutionality will then be tested in the Constitutional Court.

“We are concerned that the latest occurrence is an even further indication that the country is not being governed by parliament, but by Lethuli House, and features of a one party state are becoming progressively more evident. If, in the end, the legislation is declared unconstitutional, as is widely expected, who will repay the tax payers their money which was used to jump the gun? We hope this will come from the pockets of those in Cabinet and senior officials.”

Onbehoorlik om snoerwetsontwerp met staatsfondse te bemark

“Die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) is uiters bekommerd oor die adverteer van die Wetsontwerp oor die beskerming van staatsinligting oor die senders van die openbare uitsaaier deur die departement van Nasionale Staatsveiligheid,” Aldus die CDP-leier, ds. Theunis Botha.

“Allerlei twyfelagtige ‘voordele’ van die wetsontwerp word in die advertensies daaraan toegedig.

“Ons glo dit is hoogs onbehoorlik om belastingbetalersgeld aan te wend om iets te bemark wat ten beste nog as die beleid van ‘n enkele party – die ANC – beskou word. Dit is nog nie as wet aanvaar en onderteken nie en verskeie instansies en partye het aangedui dat hulle die grondwetlikheid daarvan gaan toets.

“Ons is bekommerd dat hierdie maar net nog ‘n teken is dat die land nie uit die parlement nie, maar uit Lethulihuis geregeer word, en dat meer en meer tekens van ‘n eenpartybedeling duidelik word.

“As die wetgewing uiteindelik ongrondwetlik verklaar word soos wat algemeen verwag word, wie gaan die belastingbetalersgeld terugbetaal vir hierdie voortydige uitdeel daarvan? Ons hoop dit sal die kabinetslede en senior amptenare wees, en dat dit uit hul eie sakke sal geskied.”