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Thursday, 21st March 2013

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“The Gillard government’s decision to abandon its proposal to regulate the media is a victory for freedom of speech in Australia,” said Chris Berg, director of policy at free market think tank the Institute of Public Affairs.

“The media regulation package represented bad law and would have imposed government restrictions on Australia’s news media outlets.

“The critical reaction from the public over these proposals should serve as a warning to governments on both sides of the political aisle that freedom of speech must not be trampled on,” said Mr Berg.

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