

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PETITIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 31

Petitions

and

Ministerial Responses

22 October 2018

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Chair	Mrs Lucy Wicks MP
Deputy Chair	Hon Justine Elliot MP
	Mr Russell Broadbent MP
	Mr Steve Georganas MP
	Mr Ben Morton MP
	Mr Ken O'Dowd MP
	Hon Jane Prentice MP

Report relating to the consideration of petitions and matters relating to the petitions system

The committee met in private session on 19 September 2018 and 17 October 2018.

1. The committee resolved to present the following petitions in accordance with standing order 207:

From 1 petitioner – requesting amendments to the definition of religion
(PN0372)

From 1 petitioner – requesting amendments to the definition of religion, with particular reference to Islam **(PN0373)**

From 228 petitioners – requesting Constitutional recognition relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples **(PN0378)**

From 932 petitioners – requesting that both Kimba sites be removed from the shortlist to host the National Radioactive Waste Management facility
(PN0381)

From 2 petitioners – regarding the teaching of human evolution in schools
(EN0714)

From 51 petitioners – requesting an annual commemoration for victims of communism **(EN0716)**

From 39 petitioners – requesting assistance for first home buyers **(EN0717)**

From 1,009 petitioners – requesting amendments to Australian Classification laws, with particular reference to female genitalia (**EN0724**)

The following ministerial responses to petitions were received:

From the Minister for Veterans' Affairs – to a petition regarding increasing or removing time limit to access a subsidy certificate under the Defence Homes Ownership Assistance Scheme Act 2008 **(EN0263)**

From the Minister for Aged Care – to a petition regarding staffing levels and English language proficiency in aged care facilities **(EN0405)**

From the Minister for Finance and the Public Service – to a petition regarding the validity of the results of the Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey **(EN0426)**

From the Minister for the Environment – to a petition regarding the purchase of land for the long term protection of the Great Sandy Strait wetlands and the Great Barrier Reef **(EN0487 and PN0342)**

From the Minister for Education – to a petition requesting that child care fee assistance for partnered couples be based on single income not combined income **(EN0495)**

From the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Transport – to a petition regarding fast tracking the Cooroy to Curra Section D upgrade of the Bruce Highway **(EN0544)**

From the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources – to a petition regarding animal welfare in the livestock export trade **(EN0585)**

From the Minister for Social Services – to a petition requesting that parents continue to pay child support until the child earns enough money to reach the tax threshold, complete training or reach the age of 21 **(EN0593)**

From the Minister for Health – to a petition regarding safety warnings on the side-effects of medications **(EN0607)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition requesting that Australia adopt a privacy framework similar to the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation **(EN0618)**

From the Minister for Education – to a petition requesting that AUSLAN be introduced into the Australian Curriculum **(EN0624)**

From the Minister for the Environment – to a petition regarding the keeping of small exotic animals as household pets in Australia **(EN0649)**

The terms of the petitions and the responses will be recorded in Hansard.

Mrs Lucy Wicks MP

Chair – Petitions Committee