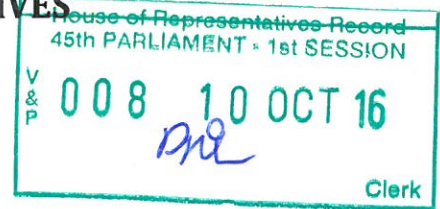


HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



PETITIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 1

Petitions

and

Ministerial Responses

10 October 2016

10 October 2016

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Chair	Mr Ross Vasta MP
Deputy Chair	Hon Justine Elliot MP
	Mr Russell Broadbent MP
	Mr Scott Buchholz MP
	Mr Steve Georganas MP
	Mr Ben Morton MP
	Mr Ken O'Dowd MP

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

The committee met in private session on Tuesday 4 October 2016.

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

From 1,784 petitioners—calling for the reversal of the closure of the Medicare/Centrelink office in Belmont, NSW.

From 29 petitioners—requesting the removal of the Superannuation Complaints Tribunal's powers to review death benefits.

From 1 petitioner—calling for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT).

From 8,423 petitioners—requesting actions to reduce violence against women and children and provide more crisis refuges.

From 49 petitioners—calling for the recognition of Australian indigenous people in the Constitution and consultation and funding for indigenous programs.

From 73 petitioners—regarding refugee and asylum seeker processing and the resettlement and appeals system.

From 6,661 petitioners—calling for an end to the export of live animals for slaughter.

From 13,471 petitioners—calling for an immediate end to Falun Gong in China.

From 364 petitioners—calling for the closure of Manus Island and Nauru detention facilities.

Two petitions, from 110 and 102 petitioners respectively, calling for legislation for all land, companies and trusts to be at least 51 per cent Australian owned.

From 240 petitioners— calling for the introduction of a fee and dividend policy on carbon fuels.

From 6,601 petitioners—regarding persecuted Christians in the Middle East.

From 2,434 petitioners—calling for changes to legislation regarding mandatory immigration detention for children; and the release of children and their families.

From 404 petitioners—regarding the permanent residency application of the Watt family of South Gippsland, Victoria.

From 1 petitioner—regarding the citizenship of the Member for Warringah.

From 11,591 petitioners—calling for an immediate end to Falun Gong in China.

From 152 petitioners—calling for a health care card for Australians with multiple life-long chronic illnesses and rare diseases.

2. The following ministerial responses to petitions were received:

From the then Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding permanent residency for Mr H Hunter and Ms I McCarthy.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition requesting that children and their accompanying families in immigration detention centres are placed in the community.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition requesting the House ensures monitoring of living conditions of children in detention centres.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition requesting changes to asylum seeker processing, housing and support.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition request for a stipend or daily allowance for international students to undertake the Professional Year Program.

From the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—to a petition requesting Dr Guguila permanent residency, waiving obligations under the 457 visa programme.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition requesting permanent residency for Ms Eunsil Park.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding sending asylum seekers to Cambodia.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition calling for certain asylum seeker policies and practices.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition request to change current policy towards asylum seekers.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding the immigration status of Mr Rashpal Singh.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding a request under section 351 of the Migration Act.

From the Minister for Communications—to a petition regarding mobile phone translators in the electorate of Hinkler.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition calling for the release of children and their families from immigration detention.

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care—to a petition calling for banning the importation of primates to Australia for research purposes.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding children in Australian detention centres and access to centres.

From the then Assistant Minister for Immigration—to a petition calling for the introduction of a ten year visitor 'Parent Visa'.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition requesting the lifting of a ten year visa application ban on a spouse of an Australian citizen.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition resettling Mr Behnam Satah from Papua New Guinea to Australia.

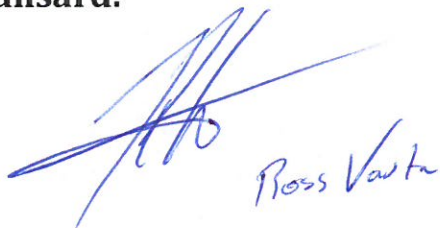
From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition calling for an increased refugee intake and a resettlement program proposal.

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care—to a petition including the Meningococcal B Vaccine on the PBS and the National Immunisation Program.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition to prevent the return of 267 asylum seekers to the Nauru detention facility.

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the *Australian Border Force Act 2015*.

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



Ross Vasta