

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PETITIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 11

Petitions

and

Ministerial Responses

8 April 2020

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Chair	Mr Ken O'Dowd MP
Deputy Chair	Hon Justine Elliot MP
	Mrs Bridget Archer MP
	Ms Lisa Chesters MP
	Ms Gladys Liu MP
	Mr Julian Simmonds MP
	Mr James Stevens MP
	Ms Susan Templeman MP

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

The committee met in private session on 5 February, 12 February, 26 February, 4 March and 25 March 2020.

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

Petitions certified at meeting of 5 February 2020

From 2 petitioners – requesting the abolition of fees for tap and go transactions **(EN1130)**

From 2 petitioners – regarding the religious beliefs of Members of Parliament **(EN1206)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding bank fees for cash withdrawals **(EN1207)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting free to air network access for Sky News **(EN1210)**

From 138 petitioners – regarding political donations **(EN1211)**

From 4 petitioners – requesting a ban on the use of certain treatments on children to address neurological illnesses **(EN1212)**

From 8 petitioners – regarding assertions about Oxford University academic Naomi Wolf **(EN1213)**

From 5 petitioners – requesting a tax exemption for fire fighters **(EN1214)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting changes to the public sector arts portfolio **(EN1215)**

From 8 petitioners – requesting a ban on sports betting advertisements **(EN1217)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting changes and additional funding for the public sector arts portfolio **(EN1218)**

From 2,230 petitioners – requesting the House enact Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability law **(EN1220)**

From 12 petitioners – requesting a motion of no confidence against Prime Minister Morrison **(EN1222)**

From 31 petitioners – regarding the proposed abolition of Leeuwin Barracks **(EN1223)**

From 11 petitioners – requesting a withdrawal of the current freedom of Religion Bill **(EN1224)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting that the desalination plant in Wonthaggi Victoria run at capacity **(EN1225)**

From 6 petitioners – requesting a policy and funding for the reforestation of unproductive cleared land with native species **(EN1228)**

From 1,332 petitioners – requesting a Royal Commission to evaluate the carbon dioxide theory of global warming **(EN1231)**

From 114 petitioners – requesting the reconsideration of a protection claim from a family of stateless refugees **(EN1232)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting that arsonists be charged with murder in circumstances where the fire they have lit has led to death(s) **(EN1233)**

From 5 petitioners – requesting funding for a large amount of firefighting robots **(EN1235)**

From 3 petitioners – requesting an honours list be established with names of firefighters who fought in the recent bushfires **(EN1238)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting legal assistance for a certain citizen subjected to human rights abuses **(EN1239)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting the withdrawal of the Interactive Gambling Amendment Act 2017 **(EN1242)**

From 5 petitioners – regarding freedom of water as per the Constitution
(EN1243)

From 4 petitioners – regarding the invitation of Brian Houston to a function at the White House **(EN1244)**

From 21 petitioners – requesting a motion of no confidence against the Prime Minister **(EN1246)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting a Royal Commission into the recent bushfires
(EN1247)

From 4 petitioners – requesting action on climate change **(EN1248)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting regulations that protect consumers from company practices that render electronic devices useless and subject to security breaches **(EN1249)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting tighter controls around the sale of pharmaceutical products containing pseudoephedrine **(EN1250)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting the establishment of a citizens assembly on climate and ecological justice **(EN1251)**

From 2 petitioners – regarding communication with citizens by Members of Parliament **(EN1252)**

From 9 petitioners – requesting action on climate change **(EN1253)**

From 6 petitioners – requesting subsidies for the purchase of electric vehicles **(EN1254)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting that the whereabouts of elected officials are publicised **(EN1255)**

From 110 petitioners – requesting a Royal Commission into the licensing and trade of water **(EN1257)**

From 5 petitioners – requesting the suspension of foreign aid **(EN1258)**

From 573 petitioners – requesting funding for epilepsy awareness and support **(EN1261)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting a reduction in Australia’s immigration rate **(EN1263)**

From 3 petitioners – requesting the establishment of a Bill of Rights **(EN1264)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting the House facilitate a public vote for deduction of \$1 from each citizen for bushfire relief **(EN1265)**

From 3 petitioners – requesting native flora and fauna studies be included in the national curriculum **(EN1266)**

From 2 petitioners – regarding the introduction of measures to address firefighting workforce shortages during bushfire seasons, better fire management techniques, and other environmental concerns **(EN1267)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting a temporary suspension of foreign aid **(EN1268)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding direct debit payments for purchases and membership contracts **(EN1269)**

From 51 petitioners – requesting a reduction in fossil fuel emissions **(EN1270)**

From 1 petitioner – regarding bank loans for purchasing farms **(EN1273)**

From 3 petitioners – regarding prepaid mobile phone charges **(EN1274)**

From 16 petitioners – regarding politicians remuneration and entitlements **(EN1275)**

From 7 petitioners – requesting action against female domestic violence **(EN1276)**

From 56 petitioners – requesting the establishment of a Federal Independent Commission Against Corruption **(EN1277)**

From 32 petitioners – requesting changes to the Country of Origin Food Labelling Information Standard 2016 **(EN1279)**

From 5 petitioners – requesting the temporary suspension of foreign aid **(EN1280)**

From 3 petitioners – regarding bank fees **(EN1281)**

From 13 petitioners – requesting the installation of wildlife detectors on national roads **(EN1282)**

From 113 petitioners – requesting the removal of the blood donation deferral period for members of the LGBT+ community **(EN1283)**

From 4 petitioners – requesting a reduction in the delay period for NDIS participants to access funds for specialised or complex assistive technology **(EN1284)**

From 74 petitioners – regarding community views toward those on the autism spectrum **(EN1285)**

From 51 petitioners – requesting a review into the classification of certain health services in Tasmania **(EN1286)**

From 1 petitioner – regarding immigration applications **(EN1287)**

From 17 petitioners – requesting the introduction of a universal basic income **(EN1289)**

From 16 petitioners – requesting a change to the amount of days in a standard working week **(EN1290)**

From 49 petitioners – requesting action on climate change and other related ecological matters **(EN1291)**

Petitions certified at meeting of 12 February 2020

From 23,689 petitioners – regarding media coverage that is misleading or has the potential to cause harm **(EN1293)**

From 37 petitioners – regarding climate change, biodiversity and soil health **(EN1295)**

From 27 petitioners – regarding soil health and seed bombing **(EN1296)**

From 66 petitioners – requesting the resignation of Minister Wyatt **(EN1297)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting more diversity in films **(EN1298)**

From 1,734 petitioners – regarding aged care assessment services **(EN1299)**

From 70 petitioners – requesting the temporary closure of the border between Australia and China **(EN1301)**

From 39 petitioners – requesting that Sickness Allowance be reinstated **(EN1302)**

From 18,438 petitioners – requesting the establishment of a Federal Independent Commission Against Corruption **(EN1303)**

From 5 petitioners – requesting changes to food labelling **(EN1304)**

From 237 petitioners – requesting an investigation into charities who received donations to provide support for bushfire victims **(EN1305)**

From 247 petitioners – requesting a federal inquiry into Indigenous suicide in the Pilbara region **(EN1307)**

From 105 petitioners – requesting the implementation of recommendations from the final report of the 2017 Referendum Council **(EN1308)**

From 83 petitioners – requesting that Australia Day be changed to 27 May **(EN1309)**

From 447 petitioners – requesting changes to the child support system **(EN1310)**

From 19 petitioners – requesting an open market for the sale of electric vehicles and a ban on the sale of combustion engine vehicles **(EN1311)**

Petitions certified at meeting of 26 February 2020

From 102 petitioners - requesting a national memorial and museum be established for extinct and endangered Australian species **(EN1313)**

From 5 petitioners - requesting that Harry and Meghan be the King and Queen of Australia **(EN1314)**

From 17 petitioners - requesting action on Climate Change **(EN1315)**

From 5 petitioners - requesting that visitors arriving from Hong Kong be refused entry to Australia **(EN1316)**

From 14 petitioners – requesting a new Australian flag design that is more culturally diverse **(EN1320)**

From 18 petitioners - requesting a proposed preamble be inserted into the Australian Constitution **(EN1321)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting that the ownership of Ayers Rock be held in trust by the Commonwealth and that it be reopened for the public to climb **(EN1325)**

From 3 petitioners – requesting that the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia’s employment be terminated **(EN1326)**

From 2 petitioners - requesting recognition for the Prime Minister’s efforts during the bushfire crisis **(EN1328)**

From 1 petitioner - requesting for the meaning of Indigenous to be examined **(EN1329)**

From 566 petitioners – requesting for the decision to store radioactive waste near Kimba, South Australia, to be rescinded **(EN1330)**

From 6 petitioners – requesting that no government money be provided to coal companies **(EN1331)**

From 5 petitioners - requesting a travel ban against Hong Kong due to the Coronavirus outbreak **(EN1332)**

From 169 petitioners - requesting for Australia to leave the United Nations **(EN1333)**

From 5 petitioners - requesting a ban on reclining aircraft seats for domestic flights **(EN1337)**

From 13 petitioners - requesting a ban on superannuation funds from investing in fossil fuels without member’s consent **(EN1338)**

From 177 petitioners - requesting that the luxury car tax be removed from electric vehicles **(EN1340)**

From 59 petitioners – requesting that 25 January be declared ‘First Nation’s Day’ **(EN1341)**

From 51 petitioners - requesting that the luxury car tax on zero emission cars be abolished **(EN1342)**

From 2,101 petitioners - requesting a ban on promotional plastic toys from supermarkets and fast food chains **(EN1344)**

From 59 petitioners - requesting a fixed four year parliamentary term **(EN1345)**

From 514 petitioners – requesting that no action be taken against petition EN1293 **(EN1346)**

From 4,105 petitioners - requesting a vote of no confidence in the government **(EN1347)**

From 82 petitioners - requesting drug and alcohol testing for Members of Parliament **(EN1348)**

From 1,034 petitioners - requesting an additional flight to evacuate Australian citizens from Hubei Province in China **(EN1349)**

Petitions certified at meeting of 4 March 2020

From 77 petitioners - requesting fixed line NBN or Skymuster Satellite for residents of greater Mylor **(EN1351)**

From 1,559 petitioners - requesting a ban on the use of facial recognition technology **(EN1352)**

From 11 petitioners - requesting a ban on the return of Chinese students to Australia until July 2020 **(EN1354)**

From 4 petitioners - requesting a change to the national bird of Australia **(EN1355)**

From 13,711 petitioners – requesting a federally funded vaccination study **(EN1356)**

From 1,098 petitioners – regarding the persecution of Falun Gong in China **(PN0467)**

Petitions certified at meeting of 25 March 2020

From 79 petitioners – requesting a raise in the rate of Newstart and similar government payments **(PN0469)**

From 2,021 petitioners – regarding the persecution of Falun Gong in China
(PN0470)

From 41 petitioners – requesting action on climate change **(PN0472)**

2. The following ministerial responses to petitions were received:

Ministerial responses received at meeting of 4 March 2020

From the Minister for Education– to a petition regarding the Australian education curriculum **(EN0934)**

From the Minister for Education– to a petition requesting mandatory cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training in schools **(EN0939)**

From the Minister for the Environment– to a petition regarding the decision to close the climb to Uluru **(EN1135)**

From the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister– to a petition requesting that there be no changes to Australia Day, the National Flag and the Australian National Anthem **(EN1136)**

From the Minister for the Environment– to a petition regarding approval of the Adani Coal Mine and Rail Project **(EN1143)**

Ministerial responses received at meeting of 25 March 2020

From the Minister for Education – to a petition regarding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies in the Australian curriculum **(EN0987)**

From the Assistant Minister for Customs, Community Safety and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding access to Australia’s visa program by overseas Nationals **(EN1067)**

From the Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts – to a petition regarding restrictions to free adult movies online **(EN1071)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition regarding establishing an independent commission against corruption **(EN1088)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition regarding tax exemption for breast feeding items **(EN1099)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition regarding federal anti-corruption arrangements **(EN1112)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition regarding Members qualifications **(EN1145)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition regarding all-inclusive pricing **(EN1166)**

From the Minister for the Environment – to a petition regarding helping Australians respond to climate change **(EN1177)**

From the Prime Minister – to a petition regarding an emergency joint parliamentary sitting **(EN1180)**

From the Minister for the Environment – to a petition regarding managing waste by removing plastic packaging from food products **(EN1183)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition regarding stopping the bail-in of bank deposits **(PN0456)**

Mr Ken O'Dowd

Chair – Petitions Committee