



THE SENATE

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

MEDIA RELEASE

7 December 2021

Senate Committee will examine the religious discrimination bills

On 2 December 2021, the Senate referred the provisions of the Religious Discrimination Bill 2021, Religious Discrimination (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2021 and Human Rights Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 4 February 2022.

The committee's inquiry is distinct and separate from that being concurrently conducted by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights.

The bills, if enacted, would make it unlawful to discriminate against a person on the ground of religious belief or activity in a range of areas of public life, including work, education, access to premises and the provision of goods, services and accommodation.

The committee invites interested stakeholders to read the bills and provide submissions directly addressing the bills by **7 January 2022**.

The committee will hold public hearings in Canberra on 20 and 21 January 2022. Information about the public hearings, including the witnesses appearing, will be made available on the inquiry webpage after 7 January 2022.

The committee's final report will be presented to the Senate and made publicly available, via the inquiry webpage, on 4 February 2022.

Information about the inquiry is available at:

https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/Religiousdiscrimination.

Information about making a submission can be found at:

https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Making_a_submission.

For media comment contact the office of Senator the Hon Sarah Henderson, Committee Chair, on (03) 5221 5900.

For information about the inquiry process or making a submission, please contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 3560 or via email to legcon.sen@aph.gov.au.

PO Box 6100, Parliament House, CANBERRA ACT 2600

Telephone: 02 6277 3560

Email: legcon.sen@aph.gov.au

Internet: https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs