

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

**REPORT No. 34**

**Petitions**

**and**

**Ministerial Responses**

**18 February 2019**

## **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 sessions on 24 October, 28 November, 5 December 2018, 17 January and 13 February 2019.**

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

From 30,985 petitioners – regarding natural and integrative medicines and therapies **(PN0388)**

From 225 petitioners – regarding funding of Catholic Care’s Toowoomba Refugee and Migrant Support Program **(PN0395)**

From 122 petitioners – regarding funding of Catholic Care’s Toowoomba Refugee and Migrant Support Program **(PN0396)**

From 1,788 petitioners – regarding refugee and asylum seeker policy **(PN0397)**

From 8,564 petitioners – regarding refugee and asylum seeker policy **(PN0399)**

From 45 petitioners– regarding planned obsolescence **(EN0755)**

From 14 petitioners– regarding Julian Assange **(EN0757)**

From 66 petitioners– regarding military deferred benefits **(EN0758)**

From 27 petitioners– requesting a first past the post voting system **(EN0760)**

From 5 petitioners– regarding the election process for Prime Ministers **(EN0762)**

From 8 petitioners– requesting the removal of particular restrictions on certain B12 injections **(EN0763)**

From 7 petitioners– requesting that Tommy Robinson be prevented from entering Australia **(EN0764)**

From 5 petitioners– regarding the Green Climate Fund **(EN0766)**

From 4 petitioners– regarding imputation credits **(EN0770)**

From 3 petitioners– requesting the establishment of a Digital Bill of Rights **(EN0773)**

From 19 petitioners– requesting that Tyler the Creator be granted entry into Australia **(EN0779)**

From 2 petitioners– requesting that the Chilling Adventures of Sabrina be banned **(EN0780)**

From 1 petitioner– regarding consumer rights and the size and price of food and beverage containers **(EN0782)**

From 1,467 petitioners– requesting that Tyler the Creator be granted entry into Australia **(EN0784)**

From 1,475 petitioners– regarding the Child Support (Assessment) Act 1989 **(EN0787)**

From 5 petitioners– regarding Australian Permanent Resident Visas for New Zealand Citizens who have children born in Australia **(EN0788)**

From 5 petitioners– regarding the export of baby formula **(EN0789)**

From 7 petitioners– requesting the creation of a Federal Independent Commission Against Corruption **(EN0792)**

From 1 petitioner– requesting the approval of a pharmacy in Cowra, NSW **(EN0793)**

From 4 petitioners– regarding workplace discrimination **(EN0795)**

From 73 petitioners– requesting the inclusion of dental care in Medicare **(EN0797)**

From 13 petitioners– requesting a ban on live animal exports **(EN0799)**

From 48 petitioners– regarding childcare benefits for temporary visa holders **(EN0800)**

From 1 petitioner– regarding the Sex Discrimination Act and faith-based schools **(EN0801)**

From 1 petitioner– regarding the Sex Discrimination Act and faith-based schools **(EN0802)**

From 4 petitioners– requesting the legalisation of ownership of Ball Pythons **(EN0804)**

From 100 petitioners– requesting the removal of GST from remedial massage and other soft tissue therapies **(EN0807)**

From 1,003 petitioners– regarding refugee and asylum seeker policy **(EN0808)**

From 79 petitioners– regarding laws and penalties for perpetrators of sexual abuse of children **(EN0809)**

From 13 petitioners– regarding Lifetime Health Cover loading **(EN0811)**

From 3 petitioners– regarding the Kyoto agreement **(EN0813)**

From 2 petitioners– regarding personal income tax for fly-in fly-out workers **(EN0814)**

From 1,015 petitioners– requesting the reinstatement of the Q Fever Management Program **(EN0815)**

From 31 petitioners– requesting changes to penalty rates **(EN0816)**

From 5 petitioners– regarding halal certification **(EN0822)**

From 1 petitioner– regarding late fees charged by businesses **(EN0828)**

From 6 petitioners– regarding fees charged by banks and other businesses **(EN0829)**

From 360 petitioners– requesting co-payments for Section 100 medicines **(EN0831)**

From 21 petitioners– regarding judicial mediation **(EN0836)**

From 3 petitioners– requesting Rahaf Alqunun be granted asylum in Australia **(EN0837)**

From 6 petitioners– regarding the requirements for nominating to run as a candidate in an election **(EN0838)**

From 45 petitioners– requesting a Bank Star Rating system **(EN0839)**

From 10 petitioners– requesting changes to anti-siphoning laws **(EN0841)**

From 8 petitioners- regarding veteran's superannuation **(EN0842)**

From 115 petitioners- regarding mental health in the workplace **(EN0843)**



**The following ministerial responses to petitions were received:**

From the Minister for the Cities, Urban Infrastructure and Population – to a petition regarding the development of Western Sydney Airport **(PN0058)**

From the Minister for the Environment – to a petition regarding climate change **(PN0093)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition requesting a change to Australia’s asylum seeker policy **(PN0332)**

From the Minister for Communications and the Arts – to a petition regarding advertising of alcohol **(PN0347)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition regarding extra fees for consumers who would prefer to receive paper invoices **(PN0359)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition requesting that Zlatan Matincic and his family be granted a care visa and work permit **(PN0360)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition requesting a change to Australia’s asylum seeker policy **(PN0361)**

From the Minister for the Environment – to a petition regarding the impact of the Carmichael coal mine project in the Galilee Basin, Queensland **(PN0362)**

From the Assistant Minister for Defence – to a petition regarding the Milne Bay Military Museum **(PN0365)**

From the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources – to a petition regarding the export of live animals **(PN0366)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding the rights of citizens to change religions **(PN0370)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs – to a petition regarding Palestinian statehood **(PN0371)**

From the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources – to a petition regarding the suspension of live sheep exports **(PN0374)**

From the Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care – to a petition requesting the House to provide a new residential aged care service within the Melbourne suburbs of Doreen or Mernda **(PN0382)**

From the Acting Attorney-General – to a petition regarding the death penalty **(EN0046)**

From the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development – to a petition requesting a program of nation building activities to take place **(EN0072)**

From the Special Minister of State – to a petition regarding the defined benefit parliamentary pension scheme **(EN0099)**

From the Minister for Justice – to a petition regarding sentencing of child sexual offences **(EN0129)**

From the Minister for Communications and the Arts – to a petition regarding the NBN **(EN0246)**

From the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel – to a petition regarding the Defence Home Ownership and Assistance Scheme (DHOAS) **(EN0263)**

From the Assistant Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition regarding illegal Tobacco sales **(EN0285)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition regarding encryption **(EN0294)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition regarding the labelling of fashion articles **(EN0377)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to three petitions requesting the removal of GST charged on sanitary items **(EN0494, EN0526 and EN0536)**

From the Minister for Indigenous Affairs – to a petition regarding Indigenous Business Australia **(EN0497)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition regarding recovery of monies spent on legal defence for Members and Senators ruled ineligible for election to the Australian Parliament **(EN0498)**

From the Minister for Education – to a petition requesting more anti-bullying education **(EN0518)**

From the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development – to a petition requesting an expansion of the M1 between Garden City and Robina **(EN0595)**

From the Minister for Health – to a petition regarding the impact of pharmaceuticals on the Australian environment **(EN0628)**

From the Assistant Minister for Treasury and Finance– to a petition requesting that Australian Tax law be amended to revoke tax free status of the Catholic Church or other similarly tax free bodies if child protection laws are not adhered to **(EN0650)**

From the Minister for Communications and the Arts – to a petition requesting the NBN retain the original copper wire as a safety precaution for households with a disabled family member **(EN0655)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs – to a petition regarding the treatment of Uighurs **(EN0659)**

From the Minister for Defence – to a petition requesting termination to the Force Posture Agreement between Australia and the United States of America **(EN0667)**

From the Minister for Health – to a petition regarding the definition of a newborn as an individual inpatient **(EN0682)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition regarding the Australian Human Rights Commission **(EN0685)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition regarding consumer rights and protections when purchasing digital products such as e-books and online games **(EN0689)**

From the Minister for Families and Social Services – to a petition regarding income support adequacy **(EN0690)**

From the Minister for Families and Social Services – to a petition regarding the quality and accountability of health care workers **(EN0692)**

From the Minister for Jobs and Industrial Relations – to a petition regarding the Fair Work Commission and 457 visas **(EN0699)**

From the Special Minister of State – to a petition requesting regarding electoral reform in Australia **(EN0701)**

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister – to a petition requesting all members of the Liberal Party be penalised two weeks’ parliamentary salary as a result of the recent Liberal leadership challenges **(EN0704)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition requesting electoral reform in Australia regarding the position of the Prime Minister **(EN0705)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition regarding the treatment under Medicare of Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) employees **(EN0707)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition requesting the taxation status of the Australian Catholic Church be revoked until child protection policies are complied with **(EN0708)**

From the Assistant Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition requesting the House to pass a Modern Slavery Act in 2018 **(EN0713)**

From the Minister for Education – to a petition requesting the inclusion of human evolution in the Australian Curriculum **(EN0714)**

From the Minister for Communications and the Arts – to a petition requesting amendments to Australian Classification laws, with particular reference to female genitalia **(EN0724)**

From the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources – to a petition requesting a vote on a Drought Relief Scheme **(EN0725)**

From the Minister for Families and Social Services – to a petition requesting an inquiry into housing options for the homeless **(EN0727)**

From the Minister for Defence Personnel – to a petition regarding Military Superannuation **(EN0729)**

From the Minister for Cities, Urban Infrastructure and Population – to a petition requesting an online poll regarding population and immigration **(EN0730)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition requesting stricter mandatory sentencing to offenders who sexually abuse children **(EN0731)**

From the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources – to a petition requesting protections for Australian Growers and Suppliers **(EN0735)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition requesting a \$1 tax system **(EN0737)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition requesting a National Referendum to merge the Federal Governments of Australia and New Zealand **(EN0742)**

From the Minister for Defence Personnel – to a petition regarding veteran's superannuation **(EN0745)**

From the Minister for Jobs and Industrial Relations – to a petition regarding mental health policies in the building, mining and farming industries  
**(EN0746)**

From the Minister for Education– to a petition regarding freedom of speech in Australian universities **(EN0747)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs– to a petition requesting legislation that prohibits the wearing of face coverings in public spaces **(EN0748)**

From the Minister for Regional Services, Sport, Local Government and Decentralisation – to a petition requesting the review of standards for food labelling **(EN0750)**

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

**Mrs Lucy Wicks MP**

**Chair – Petitions Committee**