

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

**REPORT No. 17**

**Petitions**

**and**

**Ministerial Responses**

**13 November 2023**

## **MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Chair        | Ms Susan Templeman MP |
| Deputy Chair | Mr Ross Vasta MP      |
|              | Mr Sam Birrell MP     |
|              | Ms Alison Byrnes MP   |
|              | Ms Lisa Chesters MP   |
|              | Mr Garth Hamilton MP  |
|              | Ms Tracey Roberts MP  |
|              | Ms Meryl Swanson MP   |

This committee is supported by staff of the Department of the House of Representatives

**Report summarising the petitions and ministerial responses being presented.**

**The committee met in private session in the 47<sup>th</sup> Parliament on 13 September 2023 and 18 October 2023.**

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

**Petition certified on 13 September 2023**

From 11291 petitioners – regarding a moratorium on offshore wind turbine developments off the Illawarra coastline **(EN5444)**

**Petitions certified on 18 October 2023**

From 641 petitioners – regarding access to treatment for patients on opioid agonist medications **(PN0571)**

From 150 petitioners – requesting that residency or a visa extension be granted for Mr Peter Hodgson **(PN0572)**

**2. The following 67 ministerial responses to petitions were received:**

***Ministerial responses received by the Committee on 18 October 2023***

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care to a petition regarding the inclusion of forensic psychological interventions under Medicare **(EN4157)**

From the Minister for Social Services to a petition regarding financial support for students undertaking work placements as part of their courses **(EN4166)**

From the Special Minister of State to a petition regarding the regulation of truth in political advertising **(EN4167)**

From the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to a petition requesting that certain grant funding under the Agricultural Trade and Market Access Cooperation (ATMAC) program be rescinded and used for the implementation of the Australian National Breastfeeding Strategy **(EN4188)**

From the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations to a petition requesting amendments to the *Fair Work Act 2009* to allow employees to access leave to care for or following the death of a pet **(EN4198)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care to petitions regarding the Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response Accord and proposed International Health Regulations 2005 amendments **(EN4203, EN4236, EN4255, EN4266, EN5009, EN5028, EN5029, EN5048)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs to a petition requesting that individuals be designated under the *Autonomous Sanctions Amendment Regulations 2011* for serious corruption in Sri Lanka **(EN4213)**

From the Minister for Climate Change and Energy to a petition regarding the Intergovernmental Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action **(EN4242)**

From the Treasurer to a petition regarding Medicare levy payments **(EN4248)**

From the Minister for Social Services to a petition requesting a review of the Child Support scheme **(EN4267)**

From the Minister for the National Disability Insurance Scheme to a petition requesting that Play Therapy be reinstated on the list of NDIS funded therapeutic supports **(EN4324)**

From the Minister for Social Services to a petition requesting a review and update of the Child Support scheme **(EN4342)**

From the Minister for Resources to a petition regarding seismic testing in Australian waters **(EN4404)**

From the Minister for the National Disability Insurance Scheme to a petition regarding the extension of NDIS funding for children turning 7 in 2022 **(EN4457)**

From the Minister for Education to a petition regarding financial assistance for university students undertaking unpaid, full-time, mandatory placements **(EN4474)**

From the Minister for the Arts to a petition regarding changes to the House of Representatives sitting calendar **(EN4480)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition regarding the digital distribution and transmission of anime **(EN4484)**

From the Assistant Minister for the Republic to a petition regarding a transition to a Republic government with an inclusion of a multicultural council **(EN4493)**

From the Minister for Education to a petition requesting the establishment of fast-tracked pathways to attain a Diploma of Education **(EN4521)**

From the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government to a petition regarding the recognition of the importance of pedestrian and bike infrastructure **(EN4650)**

From the Speaker to a petition requesting changes to the petitions system to improve public accountability for government responses to petitions **(EN4687)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding the points test for General Skilled Migration visas in relation to partner qualification requirements **(EN4700)**

From the Treasurer to a petition requesting a freeze on all purchases of Australian land and businesses by foreign interests **(EN4776)**

From the Minister for the Environment and Water to a petition regarding fracking in the Surat Basin, Queensland **(EN4806)**

From the Minister for the Environment and Water to a petition regarding the Chalumbin Wind Farm project, Ravenshoe, Queensland **(EN4826)**

From the Minister for the Environment and Water to a petition requesting Commonwealth heritage recognition and protection of brumbies **(EN4827)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care to a petition requesting the reinstatement of the no referral policy from a medical practitioner for PCR tests at pathology or swab collection sites **(EN4859)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding asylum for gender non-conforming individuals **(EN4863)**

From the Special Minister of State to a petition regarding exemptions from compulsory voting and removing fines for individuals who fail to vote **(EN4977)**

From the Minister for Housing to a petition Requesting a Royal Commission into the habitual systemic failure of the real estate industry **(EN5033)**

From the Minister for Housing to a petition requesting the introduction of a Home Rescue Guarantee scheme **(EN5044)**

From the Treasurer to a petition regarding tax deductions for trade unions and other employee associations **(EN5058)**

From the Treasurer to a petition regarding petrol pricing in Australia **(EN5062)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care to a petition regarding eating disorders and requesting more research and resources for treating anorexia **(EN5075)**

From the Treasurer to a petition requesting the alteration or removal of Stage 3 tax cuts **(EN5077)**

From the Special Minister of State to a petition regarding an examination of federal elections and preferential voting **(EN5087)**

From the Attorney-General to a petition requesting a review of the definition of 'person with a disability' in the *Copyright Act 1968* **(EN5097)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care to a petition requesting that vaping products not be banned, and requesting that no new legislation be introduced that would make it harder to purchase or use vaping products **(EN5102)**

From the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to a petition regarding the use of mRNA vaccines on animals **(EN5106)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs to a petition regarding the conflict and humanitarian crisis in Sudan **(EN5121)**

From the Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury to a petition regarding the pricing practices of major supermarkets towards farmers **(EN5128)**

From the Minister for Social Services to a petition regarding the income test for Disability Support Pension (DSP) recipients **(EN5131)**

From the Minister for Defence to a petition regarding military assistance to Ukraine **(EN5142)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care to a petition requesting that Visanne® (dienogest) be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for treatment of endometriosis **(EN5155)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs to a petition regarding the maintenance of autonomous sanctions on the Wagner Group and its potential listing as a terrorist organisation **(EN5157)**

From the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations to a petition requesting a platform for remote overseas employees to raise employment issues **(EN5159)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care to a petition requesting that International Board-Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLC) be granted access to the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) as allied health professionals **(EN5169)**

From the Minister for Defence to a petition regarding a review of awards to commanders of Joint Task Force 633 **(EN5170)**

From the Minister for the Environment and Water to a petition regarding the protection of the Tarkine Rainforest from commercial and industrial agreements **(EN5171)**

From the Minister for Defence to a petition regarding a review of Afghanistan Awards **(EN5179)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs to a petition regarding the maintenance of autonomous sanctions on the Wagner Group and its potential listing as a terrorist organisation **(EN5196)**

From the Minister for Social Services to a petition requesting that the Child Support scheme be reformed to make it fairer for paying parents **(EN5211)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs to a petition regarding the *Home Affairs Act 2023* as it relates to the termination of a lease held by the Government of the Russian Federation **(EN5219)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care to a petition requesting free mammogram and ultrasound services for woman and men aged 18 to 49 years of age **(EN5221)**

From the Assistant Minister for Social Services to a petition regarding the Age Pension age **(EN5224)**

From the Minister for Social Services to a petition regarding the increasing of the rate of the Disability Support Pension (DSP) **(EN5235)**

From the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government to a petition regarding standards for bus safety and the enforcement of seatbelts in vehicles **(EN5237)**

From the Minister for Housing to a petition requesting limits be placed on rent increase amounts and frequencies in Australia **(EN5239)**

From the Assistant Minister for Social Services to a petition regarding income support being received by immigrants **(EN5251)**

From the Minister for the Arts to a petition requesting that the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) take action to address issues with online queue systems for popular events **(EN5262)**

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister to a petition Requesting that the Australian National Anthem be changed to 'I am Australian' **(EN5286)**

From the Assistant Minister for Social Services to a petition regarding the introduction of a Universal Basic Income (UBI) **(EN5308)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition regarding media publication of motor vehicle accidents **(EN5313)**

From the Speaker to a petition requesting that Members maintain a greater physical presence in the Chamber while the House is sitting **(EN5348)**

From the Minister for Government Services to a petition requesting a review of the decision to close the Benalla Service Centre **(PN0541)**

From the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government to a petition requesting funding for infrastructure expansion and upgrades to the Elphin Sports Centre **(PN0565)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs to a petition regarding the indefinite offshore and onshore detention of refugees and asylum seekers **(PN0566)**



**Ms Susan Templeman MP**  
**Chair – Petitions Committee**