

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

**REPORT No. 23**

**Petitions**

**and**

**Ministerial Responses**

**18 March 2024**

## **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 07 February 2024, 14 February 2024 and 28 February 2024.**

**1. The committee resolved to present the following 41 petitions in accordance with standing order 207:**

**Petitions certified on 07 February 2024**

From 58 petitioners – regarding access to the NDIS for people with ADHD **(EN5855)**

From 520 petitioners – requesting a review of processing times for Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) visa (subclass 188) applications **(EN5856)**

From 7 petitioners – requesting that any funding of the Environmental Defenders Office be ceased **(EN5857)**

From 25 petitioners – requesting that approvals for new coal and gas projects be halted **(EN5858)**

From 2 petitioners – regarding income tax thresholds **(EN5860)**

From 2 petitioners – regarding the Medicare levy **(EN5861)**

From 19 petitioners – requesting cuts to foreign aid **(EN5862)**

From 3 petitioners – requesting the development of a nuclear fusion industry in Australia **(EN5867)**

From 14 petitioners – requesting the creation of accessible women’s health clinics **(EN5869)**

From 43 petitioners – regarding the World Health Organisation’s new amendments to the International Health Regulations **(EN5871)**

From 9 petitioners – requesting the establishment of a peace-seeking department and a Minister for Peace **(EN5874)**

From 52 petitioners – regarding the proposed World Health Organisation pandemic preparedness treaty **(EN5878)**

From 10 petitioners – requesting that funding to public broadcasters be ceased **(EN5879)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding the Medicare levy **(EN5880)**

From 10 petitioners – requesting that the fuel excise be removed **(EN5881)**

From 6 petitioners – regarding foreign ownership and investment in businesses that operate in Australia **(EN5883)**

From 22 petitioners – requesting the removal of benefits for former prime ministers **(EN5884)**

From 14 petitioners – requesting changes to Australia Day **(EN5885)**

From 22 petitioners – regarding mobile coverage in Melonba, NSW **(EN5886)**

From 883 petitioners – requesting that lipoedema be recognised by Medicare **(EN5889)**

From 468 petitioners – requesting that Australia support an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and recognise a Palestinian state **(EN5890)**

From 4 petitioners – requesting that taxation be removed for recipients of the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme **(EN5891)**

From 3831 petitioners – requesting that the Australian government revoke the cancellation of George Varghese's visa **(EN5893)**

From 152 petitioners – regarding regulations in connection with vaping **(EN5894)**

From 406 petitioners – requesting an update and expansion of the Centenary of Women's Suffrage Commemorative Fountain **(EN5895)**

From 10 petitioners – requesting federal funding for Surf Life Saving Australia **(EN5897)**

From 5 petitioners – requesting a moratorium on capital gains tax for investment properties **(EN5898)**

From 3564 petitioners – requesting the reinstatement of Australian funding to UNRWA **(EN5899)**

From 68 petitioners – requesting Australian funding to UNRWA be ceased **(EN5901)**

From 13 petitioners – requesting a review of rejected Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme visa (subclass 187) applications from the period of December 2017 to March 2018 **(EN5904)**

From 28679 petitioners – requesting that the House repeal and review parts of the *Public Health (Tobacco and Other Products) Act 2023* relating to prescription vapes **(EN5905)**

From 1144 petitioners – requesting a review of processing times for Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 491) applications **(EN5906)**

From 42 petitioners – requesting cancellation of the AUKUS nuclear-powered submarine pathway **(EN5907)**

From 9 petitioners – regarding joining fees for services or benefits **(EN5908)**

From 693 petitioners – requesting a review of child support legislation **(EN5915)**

From 5338 petitioners – requesting an inquiry into the granting of a visa to an Australian resident who is allegedly linked to a thallium poisoning case in China **(EN5916)**

#### **Petitions certified on 14 February 2024**

From 6 petitioners – requesting a review of the Contributory Parent visa application process **(EN5920)**

From 83 petitioners – requesting financial assistance for Australians impacted by the conflict in Gaza **(EN5922)**

From 390 petitioners – requesting a reduction in the cost of medicinal cannabis **(EN5923)**

From 8 petitioners – regarding education about evolution **(EN5924)**

From 178 petitioners – requesting support for the Innovation Youth Centre **(EN5926)**

**2. The following 28 ministerial responses to petitions were received.**  
***Ministerial responses received by the Committee on 28 February 2024***

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding COVID-19 travel exemptions for the family of Australian temporary residents **(EN3869)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding the inclusion of Bridging B (subclass 020) visas on the list of eligible visa holders who can travel freely without the need for an exemption from the COVID-19 travel bans to enter Australia **(EN3927)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding eligibility for the Temporary Graduate (subclass 485) visa **(EN3943)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding reform of the visa process with realistic timeframes **(EN4200)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding the designated regional areas in which Skilled Regional (Provisional) (subclass 489) visa holders must live, work and study **(EN4256)**

From the Minister for Climate Change and Energy to a petition regarding solar feed-in tariffs **(EN4301)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition requesting amendments to the Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) (subclass 491) visa **(EN4536)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding protests in Iran **(EN4544)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition requesting amendments to the Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) (subclass 491) visa **(EN4569)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding low skill temporary migration for Bangladeshi agricultural and cleaning workers **(EN4579)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding study and work rights equity for asylum seekers **(EN4612)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding language testing for Australian education and training standards **(EN4987)**

From the Minister for Defence to a petition requesting withdrawal from the AUKUS nuclear submarine agreement **(EN5246)**

From the Minister for Climate Change and Energy to a petition regarding the development of a fusion energy industry in Australia **(EN5360)**

From the Minister for Climate Change and Energy to a petition regarding the development of nuclear fusion in Australia **(EN5361)**

From the Minister for Climate Change and Energy to a petition regarding the use of nuclear fusion energy in Australia **(EN5365)**

From the Minister for Climate Change and Energy to a petition regarding nuclear fusion energy in Australia **(EN5366)**

From the Minister for Climate Change and Energy to a petition regarding investment in nuclear fusion development in Australia **(EN5367)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding visa options for parents of Australian citizen children under 18 to stay in Australia permanently **(EN5447)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding processing of Skilled Independent visas (subclass 189) and Skilled Nominated visas (subclass 190) **(EN5459)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding the processing of Skilled Nominated visas (subclass 190) **(EN5466)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs to a petition regarding the Government's response to the Senate Inquiry into human rights implications of recent violence in Iran **(EN5467)**

From the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel to a petition requesting the introduction of an extension provision in appealing matters to the Veterans' Review Board **(EN5468)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding processing times for the Subclass 191 Permanent Residence (Skilled Regional) visa in the provisional stream **(EN5497)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs to a petition requesting the facilitation of a meeting and engagement with Reza Pahlavi **(EN5506)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding processing of Skilled Nominated visas (subclass 190) **(EN5545)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care to a petition requesting the rejection of the World Health Organisation's new amendments to the International Health Regulations **(EN5566)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to a petition regarding Mr Peter Joseph Hodgson's request for ministerial intervention **(PN0572)**

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