



THE SENATE

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**Review of Schedule 9 of the Veterans' Entitlements, Treatment and Support (Simplification and Harmonisation) Act 2025**

**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Monday 18 August 2025**

**Committee Room 2S1**  
**Australian Parliament House, Canberra**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Witness</b>
1.00 pm	<b>RSL Australia (submission 3)</b> Major General (Retd) Greg Melick AO RFD FANZCN KC, National President  <b>Vasey RSL Care (no submission) (via videoconference)</b> Ms Tamara Paton, Acting Chief Executive Officer
1.45 pm	<b>Legacy Australia (submission 4)</b> Dr Mark Lax OAM, CSM, Vice-Chairman  <b>Families of Veterans Guild (submission 2) (via videoconference)</b> Ms Renee Wilson, Chief Executive Officer  <b>Defence Force Welfare Association (Qld) (submission 25) (via videoconference)</b> Mr John Lowis, President
2.30 pm	<b>Ms Julie-Ann Finney, Private capacity (submission 9)</b>  <b>Mr Michael Brown, Private capacity (submission 33) (via videoconference)</b>  <b>Lieutenant Colonel Ian Lindgren, Private capacity (submission 26)</b>
<b>3.15 pm</b>	<b>Afternoon tea</b>
3.30 pm	<b>Interim Defence and Veterans' Services Commission, Department of the Prime Minister &amp; Cabinet (submission 5) (via videoconference)</b> Mr Michael Manthorpe PSM, Interim Head of the Defence and Veterans' Service Commission Ms Frances Finney PSM, Assistant Secretary Ms Natasha McNamara, Director Ms Kim Williams, Director
4.15 pm	<b>Department of Veterans' Affairs (submission 18) (via videoconference)</b> Mr Luke Brown, First Assistant Secretary, Policy Mr Frank White, A/g General Counsel, Legal Advice and Legislation Branch
<b>5.00 pm</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>

Committee Chair: Senator Raff Ciccone

Committee Secretary: Pothida Youhorn

PO Box 6100, Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Tel: +61 2 6277 3535

Email: [fadt.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:fadt.sen@aph.gov.au) Internet:

[www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Foreign\\_Affairs\\_Defence\\_and\\_Trade](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Foreign_Affairs_Defence_and_Trade)