

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Committee Inquiry Question on Notice

Environment and Communications

**Communications Legislation Amendment (Combatting Misinformation and
Disinformation) Bill 2024 [Provisions]**

IQ24-000074

Division/Agency: DIV - Digital Platforms Safety and Classification

Hansard Reference: Written (22 October 2024)

Topic: Annual analysis of effectiveness and impact of bill

Karen Grogan asked:

Some submitters have suggested that an analysis of the effectiveness of the bill and its impact on freedom of expression should be undertaken by the ACMA within 12 months of the bill's operation and for the ACMA's annual reports to contain this analysis every year after. Would this be achievable for the ACMA? Can the ACMA foresee any issues with this suggestion?

Answer:

The Bill requires a triennial review of the operation of the Bill. The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts considers that a 3-year period between the passage of the Bill and the first review is appropriate. A 3-year period would enable more data to be collected as an evidence base and ensure that the review is better informed.