



THE SENATE

## LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS REFERENCES COMMITTEE

### MEDIA RELEASE

1 December 2022

#### Senate committee will consider current and proposed sexual consent laws in Australia

On 29 November 2022, the Senate referred an inquiry into current and proposed sexual consent laws in Australia to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 30 June 2023.

The committee will consider:

- inconsistencies in consent laws across different Australian jurisdictions;
- the operation of consent laws in each jurisdiction;
- any benefits of national harmonisation;
- how consent laws impact survivor experience of the justice system;
- the efficacy of jury directions about consent;
- impact of consent laws on consent education; and
- the findings of any relevant state or territory law reform commission review or other inquiry.

In addition to the terms of reference, the committee intends to publish a discussion paper to guide submitters in the New Year.

Further information about the inquiry, including the full terms of reference, is available at [https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal\\_and\\_Constitutional\\_Affairs/sexualcontentlaws](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/sexualcontentlaws).

The committee is seeking submissions addressing one or more of the terms of reference from interested individuals and organisations by **2 March 2023**.

Submitters may request that their submission is received confidentially or is published as name withheld. Should you wish to do so, please state this clearly at the time of making your submission.

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For media comment, contact the office of Senator Paul Scarr, Committee Chair, on 07 3186 9350.

For information about the inquiry process, please contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 3560 or email [legcon.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:legcon.sen@aph.gov.au).

PO Box 6100, Parliament House, CANBERRA ACT 2600

Telephone: 02 6277 3560 | Email: [legcon.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:legcon.sen@aph.gov.au)

Web: [https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal\\_and\\_Constitutional\\_Affairs](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs)