



New inquiry into Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment Bill (No.1) 2014

The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security today commenced an inquiry into the Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2014.

The Bill includes measures additional to the Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment (Foreign Fighters) Bill 2014, which was recently reported on by the Committee.

On introducing the Bill into the Senate, the Attorney-General said the proposed amendments in the Bill would address the following three key areas:

- facilitating Australian Secret Intelligence Service support and cooperation with the Australian Defence Force on military operations;
- enhancing the arrangements for the provision of emergency Ministerial authorisations to IS Act agencies to undertake activities in the performance of their statutory functions; and
- enhancing the control order regime to allow the Australian Federal Police to seek control orders in relation to a broader range of individuals of security concern and to streamline the application process.

The Bill will also implement Recommendation 8 of the Committee's previous inquiry into the Counter Terrorism Legislation Amendment (Foreign Fighters) Bill 2014, which would allow the Committee to review any proposed regulation to alter the listing of a terrorist organisation's name or alias.

The Attorney-General referred the Bill to the Committee for inquiry and report by 20 November 2014 in order to facilitate Parliamentary debate of the Bill in the final sitting fortnight of 2014.

The Committee Chair, Mr Dan Tehan MP, welcomed the referral of the Bill. 'The Committee is pleased to have the opportunity to review the proposed amendments and facilitate public scrutiny of their impact, consistent with a recommendation in the Committee's previous report', Mr Tehan said.

Members of the public are invited to make submissions to the inquiry. Submissions are requested by **5.00pm (AEST) on Monday, 10 November 2014.**

Due to the short timeframes, any individuals or organisations who wish to provide a submission are asked to notify the Committee Secretariat by emailing pjcis@aph.gov.au by Tuesday, 4 November 2014. A public hearing will be conducted on Thursday, 13 November 2014.

Submitters should note that the issue of data retention does not fall within the scope of this inquiry.

Further information about the inquiry, can be accessed via the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/pjcis>. The Bill and Explanatory Memorandum can be accessed via http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Bills_Legislation.

For media comment, please contact the Office of the Chair, Dan Tehan MP, on 6277 4393 (Parliament House) or 03 5572 1100 (Electorate).

For inquiry information, please contact the Committee Secretariat on 02 6277 2360 or email pjcis@aph.gov.au.