



# Australian Council of Social Service

21 November 2018

Committee Secretary  
Senate Select Committee on Charity Fundraising in the 21st Century  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

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Dear Committee Secretary,

**Submission to the Senate Select Committee on Charity Fundraising in the 21st Century in response to questions taken on notice during examination of 7 November 2018**

We write in response to questions taken on notice during the examination of John Mikelsons (Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer) and Nicole Stanmore (Director, Business Development, Stakeholder Engagement and Operations) on 7 November 2018.

During that examination, Senator Siewert asked Mr Mikelsons *“There's still talk around the Charity Passport. At the time the ACNC legislation went through, there was a commitment that the Charity Passport would be brought into reality. What are your experiences of the process that's been undertaken to date to try to make that a reality?”*

ACOSS strongly supports the use of the ACNC's charity passport by Commonwealth, State and Territory agencies so as to reduce the regulatory burden on charities. Use of the Charity Passport was briefly mandated for all Commonwealth agencies, however this is no longer the case, and its use by Commonwealth Agencies has not been consistent.

ACOSS recommends that rather than simply promote the use of the ACNC's charity passport, its use should be mandated in the Commonwealth grants rules and guidelines. Its mandated use is consistent with the Act's objective of reducing red tape.

We would be happy to provide the Committee with further information upon request. ACOSS contact for this matter is John Mikelsons, Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer,

Yours sincerely,

John Mikelsons  
Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer