Executive Summary

This report provides the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights' view on the compatibility with human rights as defined in the Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011 of bills introduced into the Parliament during the period 2 to 19 June 2014 and legislative instruments received during the period 31 May 2014 to 6 June 2014. The committee has also considered responses to the committee's comments made in previous reports.

Bills introduced 2 to 19 June 2014

The committee considered 18 bills, all of which were introduced with a statement of compatibility. Of these 18 bills, nine do not require further scrutiny as they do not appear to give rise to human rights concerns. The committee has decided to defer its consideration of eight bills and further defer one additional bill which was introduced previously.

The committee has identified five bills that it considers require further examination and for which it will seek further information. This includes three bills which the committee had deferred consideration of in previous reports.

Of the bills considered, those which are scheduled for debate during the sitting week commencing 23 June 2014 include:

- Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2014-2015
- Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2014-2015
- Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2014-2015
- Appropriation Bill (No. 5) 2013-2014
- Appropriation Bill (No. 6) 2013-2014

Legislative instruments received between 31 May 2014 and 6 June 2014

The committee considered 51 legislative instruments received between 31 May 2014 and 6 June 2014. The full list of instruments scrutinised by the committee can be found in Appendix 1 to this report.

Of these 51 instruments, 50 do not appear to raise any human rights concerns and all are accompanied by statements of compatibility that are adequate. The committee has decided to defer its consideration of one instrument.

Responses

The committee has considered eleven responses in regards to matters raised in relation to bills and legislative instruments in previous reports. The committee has concluded its examination relating to ten bills and one instrument.
Senator Dean Smith
Chair