

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PETITIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 2

Petitions

and

Ministerial Responses

9 September 2019

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Chair	Mr Llew O'Brien MP
Deputy Chair	Hon Justine Elliot MP
	Mrs Bridget Archer MP
	Ms Lisa Chesters MP
	Ms Gladys Liu MP
	Mr Julian Simmonds MP
	Mr James Stevens MP
	Ms Susan Templeman MP

Report relating to the consideration of petitions and matters relating to the petitions system

The committee met in private session on 31 July 2019.

1. The committee resolved to present the following petitions in accordance with standing order 207:

From 481 petitioners – regarding the Adani coal mine, QLD **(PN0413)**

From 44 petitioners – regarding the Adani coal mine, QLD **(PN0414)**

From 289 petitioners – requesting a post office outlet in the Illawong/Alfords Point area, NSW **(PN0415)**

From 214 petitioners – regarding Australia’s asylum seeker policy **(PN0419)**

From 10 petitioners – regarding National Disability Insurance Scheme benefits for those over 65 years **(PN0420)**

From 2777 petitioners – regarding Falun Gong in China **(PN0421)**

From 678 petitioners – regarding aged care facilities in Churchill, Victoria **(PN0423)**

From 47 petitioners – regarding a national policy of zero net greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 **(EN0910)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding Brunei’s policy on homosexuality **(EN0911)**

From 61 petitioners – regarding Australia’s refugee policy **(EN0914)**

From 291 petitioners – requesting that people with chronic illnesses not be placed on a Newstart allowance **(EN0915)**

From 11 petitioners – regarding mobile phone portability scams **(EN0917)**

From 10 petitioners – regarding legislation to protect Christians against harassment, discrimination and vilification **(EN0918)**

From 2 petitioners – regarding Julian Assange and freedom of speech **(EN0919)**

From 1 petitioner – regarding the Australian citizenship and passport of Sarah Isaac **(EN0920)**

From 212 petitioners – regarding the rights of fathers to access their children **(EN0921)**

From 25 petitioners – regarding legal aid in family law matters **(EN0922)**

From 2 petitioners – regarding the creation of Indigenous representative bodies at the national, state and territory levels **(EN0923)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding political advertising **(EN0927)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding blood donation in Australia by gay men
(EN0928)

From 8 petitioners – regarding Government transparency and public perception **(EN0929)**

From 8 petitioners – regarding the addictive nature of video games **(EN0930)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting parliamentary terms be extended to 4 years
(EN0931)

From 14 petitioners – requesting a change to Australia’s electoral system
(EN0932)

From 6 petitioners – requesting the use of sustainable and eco-friendly resources **(EN0933)**

From 1 petitioner – regarding education around human evolution **(EN0934)**

From 52 petitioners – requesting removal of items 12 and 28 from the Cybercrime Act 2001 **(EN0938)**

From 253 petitioners – requesting mandatory CPR and defibrillator training in schools **(EN0939)**

From 375 petitioners – requesting a moratorium on the rollout of the 5G network until health effects are known **(EN0942)**

From 7 petitioners – regarding Australia’s water security **(EN0945)**

From 5 petitioners – regarding changes to Australia’s democratic processes **(EN0946)**

From 531 petitioners – requesting endometriosis medicines be available on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme **(EN0947)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding the obligations of elected members of parliament to the law and the Gospel of God in the administration and authority of the Commonwealth **(EN0948)**

From 3858 petitioners – regarding amendments to legislation for handlebar height for mopeds, motorcycles and motor trikes **(EN0950)**

From 4 petitioners – requesting that Robert F Kennedy Jr be denied access to Australia because of his anti-vaccination stance **(EN0951)**

From 61 petitioners – regarding age limits for visas **(EN0953)**

From 2 petitioners – regarding S44 of the Australian Constitution with particular reference to Mr Frydenberg MP and his citizenship status **(EN0954)**

From 1 petitioner – regarding S44 of the Australian Constitution with particular reference to Mr Dutton MP and his financial interests **(EN0955)**

From 2 petitioners – regarding S44 of the Australian Constitution with particular reference to Mr Joyce MP and his citizenship status **(EN0956)**

From 5 petitioners – regarding Hong Kong’s extradition bill **(EN0957)**

From 22 petitioners – the outsourcing of Australia’s Government Departments **(EN0959)**

From 16 petitioners – requesting that ecocide be an Australian criminal offence **(EN0961)**

From 9 petitioners – regarding Peter Dutton MP and the RHT Family trust **(EN0963)**

From 12 petitioners – regarding religious freedom in Australia **(EN0965)**

From 8 petitioners – regarding Australia’s first home buyer scheme **(EN0967)**

From 17 petitioners – regarding carbon emissions and climate change **(EN0968)**

From 5 petitioners – regarding the Attorney-General and the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions **(EN0969)**

From 40 petitioners – regarding how to make changes to the Australian Constitution **(EN0972)**

From 73 petitioners – regarding bail in laws and Australian Banks **(EN0974)**

From 20 petitioners – regarding access to Australian Standards **(EN0975)**

From 11006 petitioners – requesting cessation of the Australian 5G rollout until health effects are known **(EN0977)**

From 185 petitioners – requesting cessation of the Australian 5G rollout until health effects are known **(EN0978)**

From 408 petitioners – requesting changes to Australia’s electoral system **(EN0979)**

From 321 petitioners – regarding nuclear energy production in Australia **(EN0980)**

From 464 petitioners – requesting the Attorney-General intervene in the prosecution of whistleblower Richard Boyle **(EN0981)**

From 326 petitioners – regarding Newstart payments **(EN0982)**

From 144 petitioners – regarding the United Nations Paris Agreement on climate change, Australia’s water security, power prices and immigration/refugee policy **(EN0983)**

From 171 petitioners – requesting that Aboriginal studies be mandatory in all primary and secondary school curricula in Australia **(EN0987)**

From 229 petitioners – regarding linking Centrelink benefits to pay rises for politicians **(EN0988)**

From 2 petitioners – regarding regulation of angry reviewers on the internet **(EN0989)**

From 227 petitioners – requesting the cancellation of charitable status for all religious organisations so that they pay tax at the same rate as other businesses **(EN0991)**

From 92 petitioners – requesting cessation of taxpayer funding for all private and religious schools. **(EN0992)**

The following ministerial responses to petitions were received:

From the Minister for Indigenous Australians – to a petition requesting the Australian Government re-examine the Uluru Statement from the Heart
(PN0343)

From the Minister for Indigenous Australians – to a petition regarding Constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians **(PN0356)**

From the Minister for Minister for Indigenous Australians – to a petition requesting acknowledgement of first Australians in the Constitution
(PN0378)

From the Minister for Families and Social Services – to a petition regarding funding for Toowoomba Refugee and Migrant Support (TRAMS) program
(PN0395 and PN0396)

From the Minister for Health – regarding shortage of GPs in rural, remote and regional locations **(PN0398)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding regional processing arrangements and refugee policy
(PN0399)

From the Assistant Minister for Regional Development and Territories – to a petition requesting a permanent national memorial for victims of terrorists
(EN0255)

From the Minister for the Environment – to a petition regarding Adani’s Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project **(EN0726)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding visitor visa applications for Syrian and Lebanese nationals seeking to visit family in Australia **(EN0733)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition requesting the House recognise the traditions of Christmas and Easter and to encourage open celebration across Australian society **(EN0740)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition requesting a Royal Commission into fuel prices and gouging, a reduction in fuel excise and the removal of GST on fuel **(EN0744)**

From the Minister for the Environment – to a petition regarding reducing our greenhouse emissions **(EN0756)**

From the Minister for Defence Personnel – to a petition requesting changes to the Military Superannuation and Benefits (MBS) scheme **(EN0758)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition regarding guaranteed four-year terms for the Prime Minister of Australia **(EN0762)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs – to a petition regarding funding to the Green Climate Fund **(EN0766)**

From the Minister for Communications and the Arts – to a petition requesting a digital bill of rights **(EN0773)**

From the Minister for Communications and the Arts – to a petition requesting to ban the Netflix series, *Chilling Adventures of Sabrina: Part 1* **(EN0780)**

From the Minister for Education – to a petition regarding eligibility for child care fee assistance **(EN0800)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition regarding the removal of GST on services such as remedial massage and other soft tissue therapies **(EN0807)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition requesting tougher penalties for convicted child sex offenders **(EN0809)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition requesting that late fees for payments be made illegal **(EN0828)**

From the Assistant Treasurer – to a petition requesting the abolition of bank fees and surcharges **(EN0829)**

From the Minister for Jobs and Industrial Relations – to a petition requesting the provision of mental health first aiders for all Australian workplaces **(EN0843)**

From the Minister for Health – to a petition regarding the listing of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the lumbar spine on the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) **(EN0845)**

From the Minister for Health – to a petition regarding funding and assistance for people with epilepsy **(EN0849)**

From the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development – to two petitions requesting bus companies supply secure areas for wheelchairs (EN0860), and requesting changes to the Vehicle Standard (Australian Design Rule (ADR) 58/00 Requirements for Omnibuses Designed for Hire and Reqrds) 2006 (EN0861) **(EN0860 and EN0861)**

From the Minister for Families and Social Services – to a petition regarding Newstart Allowance for people over 50 years of age. **(EN0872)**

From the Minister for Families and Social Services – to a petition requesting that all Master of Physics courses be included as approved courses in the *Student Assistance (Education Institution and Courses) Determination 2019* **(EN0873)**

The terms of the petitions and the responses will be recorded in Hansard.

Mr Llew O'Brien MP

Chair – Petitions Committee