

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY Mr Peter Cain MLA (Chair), Dr Marisa Paterson MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

MEDIA RELEASE

Report tabled for the inquiry into Freedom of Information Legislation Amendment Bills 2022

The Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety published a report today on two Freedom of Information (FOI) Legislation Amendment Bills 2022.

- Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2022 The objective of this Bill is to amend the Freedom of Information Act 2016 to amend the timeframes for processing FOI applications, including increasing the time to process an application, clarify publication protocols and provide the Ombudsman with further review powers.
- Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2022 (No2) The objective of this bill is to create a proactive disclosure provision for the ACT Government to publicly release Cabinet records within 30 days of being considered by Cabinet, with some exceptions.

The report made eight recommendations. A dissenting report was provided by the Committee Chair, Mr Peter Cain MLA.

Under the Assembly's standing orders, the Government is required to respond to committee reports within four months of tabling.

The report is available at: <u>Inquiry into the Freedom of Information Amendment Bills 2022 - ACT Legislative</u> <u>Assembly</u>

7 February 2023 STATEMENT ENDS.

For further information please contact: Committee Chair, Mr Peter Cain MLA on (02) 6205 1927 Committee Secretary, on (02) 6207 0524 or at <u>LACommitteeJCS@parliament.act.gov.au</u>