



Inquiry into Civil Law (Wrongs) (Organisational Child Abuse Liability) Amendment Bill 2025

Statement pursuant to Standing Order 246A

Mr Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 246A, I wish to make a statement on behalf of the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs relating to the Inquiry into the Civil Law (Wrongs) (Organisational Child Abuse Liability) Amendment Bill 2025. This inquiry reported on 16 September 2025.

It has been brought to the Committee's attention that some organisations in the stakeholder list for the inquiry were accidentally not included in the Committee's email inviting submissions to this inquiry.

The invitation was however, also extended to a wide range of sporting, charitable and religious organisations. The Committee received one confidential submission from a religious organisation (as well as other confidential submissions from victims).

While information about inquiries open for submissions are openly advertised on the committee's webpage, and through a media release, the Committee immediately addressed the oversight by inviting missed stakeholders to provide comments on the report in the interests of ensuring that members had access to a wider range of stakeholder views prior to resumption of debate on the bill. These comments were due by close of business Friday 24 October 2025.

The Committee received comments from three stakeholders, including one not originally identified in the stakeholder list. Issues of concern raised in these comments relate to retrospectivity of application, impacts on community groups, action ahead of the development of a national approach, and noted the existence of existing redress measures available to victims. Some of these issues mirror issues raised by other stakeholders in their submissions which are referenced in the report.

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The Committee asks members to note matters raised in their comments on the committee webpage for the inquiry. The comments are published under the submissions tab on the inquiry webpage.