



Legislative Assembly for the
Australian Capital Territory

Select Committee on Social Policy

Submission cover sheet

Inquiry into Petition 017-25 and E-Petition 005-25: Closure of Burrangiri Aged Care Respite Centre in Rivett

Submission number: 17

Submitter: Jessie Price

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Burrangiri

Standing Committee on Social Policy

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Dear Standing Committee on Social Policy

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the ACT's Inquiry into Petition 017-25 and E-Petition 005-25: Closure of Burrangiri Aged Care Respite Centre in Rivett.

I am writing on behalf of the very many concerned constituents who have reached out to me as the Independent candidate for Bean in the 2025 Federal Election regarding the proposed closure of Burrangiri.

I wish to highlight the need for aged care respite in the ACT, in a context of acute shortage already.

Access to respite enables long-term care at home, reducing demand on aged care services. As you know, Burrangiri offers a day-care program and short-stay respite for up to three weeks without requiring an ACAT assessment. I wish to highlight that respite care is separate to step-down services from medical care, although Burrangiri also provides this service.

As you also know, there is an acute shortage of respite places in the ACT; many families have told me stories of ringing desperately around town looking for assistance. If Burrangiri was to close before further aged respite care was in place, these families would be in an untenable situation in providing the care to their loved ones of their choice and wishes.

Without exception, the people and families contacting me have spoken extremely highly and with great affection and gratitude of the care they have received at Burrangiri. Contrary to reports in the media regarding the number and functionality of bathrooms, for example, families have stated that facilities are adequate and quality of care is excellent. I would encourage the Inquiry to investigate the number and state of bathrooms for themselves.

In this Federal election period, the Commonwealth government promised \$10 million towards aged care respite in the ACT. With the success of the Labor government at election, I strongly petition that the ACT government delay the closure of Burrangiri until sufficient aged care respite is in place for families and their loved ones.



Respite care enables families to continue to provide the care to loved ones in the comfort of their home, in the way that they wish to live and be cared for, with dignity and choice. I ask again that the ACT Government recognises this opportunity to listen to the real needs of the community and demonstrate their responsiveness and support.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide this submission. I look forward to seeing the outcome of this Inquiry.

Yours sincerely



Jessie Price

Independent Candidate for Bean