

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PETITIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 1

Petitions

and

Ministerial Responses

26 September 2022

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Chair	Ms Susan Templeman MP
Deputy Chair	Mr Ross Vasta MP
	Mr Sam Birrell MP
	Ms Alison Byrnes MP
	Ms Lisa Chesters MP
	Mr Garth Hamilton MP
	Ms Tracy Roberts MP
	Ms Meryl Swanson MP

Report summarising the petitions and Ministerial responses being presented.

The previous committee met in private session in the 46th Parliament on 9 March and 30 March 2022.

1. The committee resolved to present the following 77 petitions in accordance with standing order 207:

Petitions certified on 9 March 2022

From 13 petitioners – requesting the kangaroo be removed from the Commonwealth coat of arms **(EN3952)**

From 15 petitioners – requesting first aid training be mandatory for all school educators **(EN3955)**

From 20 petitioners – requesting annual evaluation of the cost of living in relation to Centrelink payments **(EN3957)**

From 3 petitioners – requesting changes to permanent residency rules for parents of Australian citizens **(EN3960)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3962)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3963)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3964)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3965)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3966)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3967)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3968)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3969)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3970)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3971)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3988)**

From 52 petitioners – requesting the criminalisation of conversion therapy **(EN3989)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3993)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN3997)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN4000)**

From 116 petitioners – requesting changes to the Centrelink Rent Assistance payments to be more flexible **(EN4007)**

From 6 petitioners – requesting Australia join the European Union’s Digital COVID-19 Certificate Program **(EN4008)**

From 156 petitioners – requesting paediatric physiotherapy be included on the priority migration skilled occupation list for applications **(EN4011)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN4013)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN4014)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN4015)**

From 1 petitioner – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN4016)**

From 3 petitioners – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN4018)**

From 5 petitioners – requesting a pathway to permanent residency **(EN4022)**

From 825 petitioners – requesting Australia call on India to address human rights violations in Kashmir **(EN4023)**

From 332 petitioners – requesting an analysis of changes to the Medicare Benefits Scheme which impact on individuals with chronic pain **(EN4024)**

From 293 petitioners – requesting the maximum attempts for Lantite testing be removed **(EN4025)**

From 16 petitioners – requesting Medicare cover for treatment of COVID-19 be rescinded for unvaccinated patients **(EN4028)**

From 106 petitioners – requesting Australian gold reserves to be relocated to Australia **(EN4029)**

From 19 petitioners – requesting the immediate cancellation of visas for members of the Russian Duma **(EN4031)**

From 16 petitioners – requesting increased humanitarian and military assistance to support Ukraine against the Russian invasion **(EN4032)**

From 180 petitioners – requesting humanitarian aid and evacuation assistance for Ukrainian citizens **(EN4034)**

From 31 petitioners – requesting a ban on the use of sirens in all radio advertisements **(EN4036)**

From 350 petitioners – requesting Australia withdraw from various organisations **(EN4037)**

From 194 petitioners – requesting the House pass the *No Requirement for Medical Treatment Bill (2021)* **(EN4039)**

From 229 petitioners – requesting Australia condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine **(EN4041)**

From 270 petitioners – requesting Australia offers to accept 20,000 Ukrainian refugees **(EN4042)**

Petitions certified on 30 March 2022

From 124 petitioners - requesting a Parliamentary Accountability, Transparency and Disclosures Act **(EN4045)**

From 16 petitioners - requesting the grant of special visas for refugees fleeing war in Ukraine **(EN4046)**

From 14 petitioners - requesting the introduction of mandatory sexual consent for all kids in schools **(EN4047)**

From 14 petitioners - requesting assistance for the victims of flooding in Queensland **(EN4048)**

From 17 petitioners - requesting Releasing of FM licenses in the Ballarat LAP **(EN4049)**

From 13 petitioners - requesting the supply of military and financial assistance to help repel Russian aggression **(EN4051)**

From 546 petitioners - requesting no agreements with the World Health Organization **(EN4053)**

From 2495 petitioners - requesting lowering the age of free bowel cancer screening **(EN4055)**

From 20 petitioners - requesting help for the Lismore cleanup from the Commonwealth Government **(EN4058)**

From 4 petitioners - requesting the lobbying of telecommunications companies to fix reception issues in Lucas, Victoria. **(EN4060)**

From 1273 petitioners - requesting the removal of legislation that prevents nuclear power in Australia. **(EN4061)**

From 2976 petitioners - requesting the inclusion of vertebral body tethering in the Medicare Benefits Scheme **(EN4062)**

From 373 petitioners - requesting the removal of the balance of family test for Parent Permanent Visas **(EN4064)**

From 3 petitioners - requesting gender equity for frontline combat roles **(EN4069)**

From 33 petitioners - requesting the ban of Ukrainian ultranationalist groups from entering Australia **(EN4071)**

From 17 petitioners - requesting the suspension of the fuel excise tax **(EN4074)**

From 15 petitioners - requesting the House to act to lower the increasing price of petrol **(EN4075)**

From 10 petitioners - requesting the ban on wearing a burqa or niqab in public spaces **(EN4076)**

From 205 petitioners - requesting the removal of international travel restrictions for unvaccinated travellers with natural immunity **(EN4083)**

From 39 petitioners - requesting a decrease in the federal Members of Parliament superannuation contribution to 10% **(EN4084)**

From 28 petitioners - requesting the removal of the fuel tax **(EN4085)**

From 1326 petitioners - requesting the waiver of the validity period of skill assessment for trade occupation **(EN4086)**

From 31 petitioners - requesting reinstatement of Medicare item no 30177 **(EN4087)**

From 893 petitioners - requesting the declaration of Putin's United Russia as a terrorist organisation and freeze of its assets **(EN4088)**

From 14 petitioners - requesting the inclusion of government surveys of employees in public contracts with private companies. **(EN4089)**

From 46232 petitioners - requesting Parliament to not pass the Digital Identity Legislation (Trusted Digital Identity Bill). **(EN4090)**

From 40 petitioners - requesting the issue of contingent visas to 60 persecuted Chinese Christians **(EN4091)**

From 85 petitioners - requesting that existing codes and standards are equally enforced for public officials **(EN4095)**

From 66 petitioners – requesting that Australia store its gold reserves within Australia **(EN4096)**

From 218 petitioners - requesting that META be banned in Australia **(EN4097)**

From 319 petitioners - requesting that Australia strengthen its democratic institutions **(EN4099)**

From 22526 petitioners - requesting free or affordable access to Australian Standards **(EN4101)**

From 1477 petitioners - requesting the legalization of cannabis **(EN4102)**

Petitions certified on 7 September 2022

From 30 petitioners – requesting the release of 51 sick refugees and asylum seekers into the community **[PN0538]**

From 221 petitioners – requesting the release of approximately 200 sick refugees and asylum seekers into the community **[PN0536]**

Petition certified on 14 September 2022

From 841 petitioners – requesting the House’s consideration of a ministerial appeal of a visa application **[PN0539]**

The following 94 ministerial responses to petitions were received:

Received by the Committee on 7 September 2022

From the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development – to a petition requesting information on COVID-19 vaccination of aviation staff **(EN3806)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting a Royal Commission into the conduct of the Therapeutic Goods Administration and the Australian Health Practitioners Registration Authority in the context of COVID-19 **(EN3688)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition regarding COVID-19 vaccinations **(EN3581)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting financial assistance to ensure availability of the COVAX-19 vaccine in Australia **(EN3586)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition regarding COVID-19 vaccine requirements **(EN3812)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting funding to ensure availability of the COVAX-19 vaccine in Australia **(EN3577)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition regarding COVID-19 vaccination for children aged 5 to 12 years **(EN3625)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting implementation and use of rapid antigen testing for COVID-19 across Australia **(EN3239)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting recognition for COVID-19 vaccines approved overseas **(EN3567)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting funding of private health insurance for Australians living with disability **(EN3627)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting approval for the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine be fast tracked for use in Australia **(EN3646)**

From the Minister to Veterans' Affairs – to a petition requesting changes to section 137(1) of the Veterans' Entitlements Act **(EN3494)**

From the Minister to Veterans' Affairs – to a petition requesting the Department of Veterans' Affairs no longer compile 'evidence reports' **(EN3367)**

From the Minister to Veterans' Affairs – to a petition requesting the Department of Veterans' Affairs only assess 'evidence' rather than 'other material' in reports to the Veterans' Review Board **(EN3399)**

From the Minister to Veterans' Affairs – to a petition requesting changes to the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* **(EN3361)**

From the Minister to Veterans' Affairs – to a petition requesting changes to the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* regarding 'Tooth wear' in the Statement of Principles **(EN3423)**

From the Minister to Veterans' Affairs – to a petition requesting the Department of Veterans' Affairs no longer consider 'other information' and 'other material' in reports to the Veterans' Review Board **(EN3362)**

From the Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts – to a petition requesting the implementation of a Bill requiring media and social media platforms to state where digital alteration photos has occurred **(EN3599)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting the reinstatement Lantus to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme **(EN3757)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting body modifications be protected under Commonwealth workplace laws **(EN3566)**

From the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister and Cabinet – to a petition regarding a National Day of Prayer in Parliament **(EN3152)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs – to a petition requesting an International Commission of Inquiry into the 1988 execution of Iranian political prisoners **(EN3550)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition requesting Ministerial Intervention to grant two petitioners permanent residency **(EN3676)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition requesting the citizenship application process be sped up **(EN3675)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding the return of international students and temporary visa holders from overseas **(EN3663)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding applications for the Global Talent Visa **(EN3662)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding the Australian Government's immigration policies **(EN3600)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition requesting any recognised spouse of an Australian Defence Force member who accompanies the member on an overseas posting have time overseas treated as time in Australia for residency purposes **(EN3723)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition requesting a pathway to permanent residency for non-eligible New Zealanders **(EN3733)**

From the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development – to a petition requesting an advertising ban on internal combustion engine vehicles **(EN3672)**

From the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development – to a petition requesting a Community Safety and Liveability Plan for communities around the Lefevre Peninsula **(EN3797)**

From the Minister for Indigenous Australians – to a petition requesting the Ngurra Cultural Precinct not be established **(EN3818)**

From the Acting Minister for Education and Youth – to a petition requesting availability of Auslan education in public schools **(EN3636)**

From the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment – to a petition requesting the cancellation of a lease at Keswick Island **(EN2468)**

From the Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction and Environmental Management – to a petition a ban on the production and use of all non-recyclable and new plastics in Australia **(EN3558)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition requesting improved protection of parents during pregnancy, childbirth and infancy of children **(EN2738)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition requesting the House not pass the Social Media (Anti-Trolling) Bill 2022 **(EN3718)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition requesting the House not pass the Religious Discrimination Bill **(EN3724)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition requesting the establishment of a federal anti-corruption body **(EN3668)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition requesting ongoing funding for the Northern Territory Working Women’s Centre **(EN3178)**

From the Minister for Finance – to a petition requesting changes to the Scheme for Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration **(EN3251)**

From the Prime Minister – to a petition requesting Diwali be declared a public holiday **(EN3626)**

From the Minister for Families and Social Services – to a petition regarding the Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment **(EN3719)**

From the Speaker of the House of Representatives – to a petition requesting the scoring of speeches made in the House on several criteria **(EN3574)**

From the Minister for Health – to a petition regarding public funding of areola tattooing for breast cancer patients **(EN3941)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition regarding international travel by Australian citizens to South Africa **(EN3649)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs – to a petition regarding Australia’s funding to multilateral organisations **(EN3544)**

From the Minister for Sport – to a petition requesting a national swim and water safety program **(EN3769)**

From the Minister for Government Services – to a petition regarding the reopening of Benalla Centrelink Office **(EN3647)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition regarding emerging such as biometrics and RFID **(EN3687)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition regarding opening Australia’s international borders **(EN 3666)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition requesting the release of immigration detainees to assist with labour shortages **(EN3807)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition regarding travel from Singapore to Australia **(EN3673)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition regarding border restrictions for non-vaccinated non-citizens entering Australia **(EN3822)**

Minister for Sport – to a petition regarding eligibility for the Australian Sports Medal for participants of the Invictus Games **(EN3865)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care - to a petition requesting expansion of free access to glucose monitoring technology to include cystic fibrosis related diabetes **(EN3885)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition regarding the establishment of a federal anti-corruption body **(EN3893)**

From the Minister for Housing – to a petition regarding affordable housing rental prices **(EN3904)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting assistance for new immigrants purchasing private health insurance on one occasion **(EN3906)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition regarding the decriminalisation of cannabis **(EN3916)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting allowing inbound arrivals for all vaccinated persons without quarantine **(EN3921)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting no mandate or law or compulsory requirement for vaccination **(EN3926)**

From the Minister for NDIS – to a petition requesting NDIS funds be released in the event of the sudden death of a participant **(EN3931)**

From the Minister for Social Services – to a petition requesting an increase to the rate of income support payments **(EN3938)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting free period products and maternity pad in public hospitals **(EN3939)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition requesting quarantine-free travel arrangements with Malaysia and other south-east Asian countries **(EN3661)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition regarding foreign interference **(EN3654)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition regarding bridging visa holders leaving and re-entering Australia **(EN3686)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition regarding international travel from vaccinated Australian citizens and permanent residents **(EN3957)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition regarding the removal of unlawful non-citizens from Australia to the United Kingdom **(EN3726)**

From the Minister for Education – to a petition regarding vetoing discovery project grants **(EN3949)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting subsidising continuous glucose monitoring for all type 1 diabetics **(EN3942)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting Cystic Fibrosis are modulators available to all **(EN3948)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting a bill to subsidise and make rapid antigen tests free to everyone in Australia **(EN3796)**

From the Minister for Youth – to a petition requesting promoting and providing fresh food in day care at public schools **(EN3792)**

From the Minister for Education – to a petition regarding COVID-19 safety in schools **(EN3602)**

From the Minister for Health and Aged Care – to a petition requesting recognition of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine administered overseas **(EN3619)**

From the Assistant Treasurer - to a petition regarding subsidies for electric vehicles **(EN3386)**

From the Minister for Small Business – to a petition requesting providing financial support for the beauty industry **(EN2758)**

Received by the Committee on 7 September 2022

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting the approval of Covax-19 vaccine **[EN3555]**

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting consideration of alternative COVID vaccines **[EN3595]**

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting the approval of Covax-19 vaccine **[EN3620]**

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting support for an Australian COVID vaccine Covax-19 **[EN3565]**

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting a stop to the mandating of boosters for healthcare workers **[EN3857]**

From the Minister for Communications - to a petition requesting an end to free to view adult content **[EN2662]**

From the Minister for Communications - to a petition requesting to force international adult material websites to check proof of age **[EN3731]**

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting the exclusion of vaccinated individuals from Medicare benefits **[EN3587]**

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting a declaration that vaccine mandates are illegal civil conscriptions into long term trials **[EN3659]**

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting the introduction of new vaccine CORBEVAX **[EN3871]**

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting the cessation of vaccine mandates **[EN3886]**

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting deregistration of health professionals who fail to report vaccine injuries **[EN3736]**

From the Minister for Health - to a petition requesting an investigation into vaccine side effects **[EN3623]**

From the Minister for Financial Services - to a petition requesting making the use of my.gov non compulsory **[EN3614]**

From the Minister for Financial Services - to a petition requesting the removal of the tax return late penalty notice for 2019/20 tax year **[EN2640]**.

Ms Susan Templeman MP
Chair – Petitions Committee