

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

**REPORT No. 15**

**Petitions**

**and**

**Ministerial Responses**

**11 September 2023**

## **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 Tracey Roberts MP
	Ms Meryl Swanson MP

This committee is supported by staff of the Department of the House of Representatives

**Report summarising the petitions and ministerial responses being presented.**

**The committee met in private session in the 47<sup>th</sup> Parliament on 2 August 2023 and 9 August 2023**

**1. The committee resolved to present the following 72 petitions in accordance with standing order 207:**

**Petitions certified on 2 August 2023**

From 83 petitioners – requesting the reduction of the Age Pension back to 65 **(EN5224)**

From 56 petitioners – requesting safety labels for food containing roundup **(EN5225)**

From 501 petitioners – regarding legal Australian tender **(EN5226)**

From 13 petitioners – requesting a ban on electric vehicles (EVs) until they have alternative charging mechanisms **(EN5227)**

From 7 petitioners – requesting subsidies for gas cooking appliances **(EN5228)**

From 7 petitioners – requesting the abolition of the minimum 12-month period with a new employer before allowing parental leave **(EN5229)**

From 732 petitioners – requesting a ban on CSG mining until it can safely store waste salt **(EN5230)**

From 1893 petitioners – requesting the cessation of the Voice Referendum **(EN5231)**

From 18 petitioners – regarding the reinstating of stripped citizenship **(EN5232)**

From 82 petitioners – requesting an immediate pause on the use of the Pfizer & Moderna Covid-19 vaccines **(EN5233)**

From 11 petitioners – regarding the disability support pension rate **(EN5235)**

From 9795 petitioners – requesting that bus seatbelts be made mandatory nationwide **(EN5237)**

From 616 petitioners – requesting the introduction of limits on rent increases **(EN5239)**

From 4 petitioners – requesting the ‘Mercy Amendment’ whistleblower protection for persons with disabilities **(EN5240)**

From 3 petitioners – regarding the building of a hyperloop to solve the housing crisis **(EN5241)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding a compulsory savings mechanism to fight inflation and requesting that the Treasurer use executive powers to overrule RBA interest rate increases **(EN5242)**

From 185 petitioners – regarding disability parking misuse and abuse **(EN5243)**

From 25 petitioners – requesting withdrawal from the AUKUS nuclear submarine agreement **(EN5246)**

From 44 petitioners – requesting that only citizens and permanent residents be allowed to purchase real estate **(EN5247)**

From 22 petitioners – requesting mandatory trauma-informed training for police as a part of recruitment **(EN5250)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding the potential abuse of grants and payments to permanent migrants **(EN5251)**

From 31 petitioners – regarding petition EN5135 **(EN5252)**

From 4968 petitioners – requesting the disclosure of information on chemical deployments in the atmosphere **(EN5255)**

From 3 petitioners – requesting that gender affirmation surgery be covered by Medicare **(EN5256)**

From 24 petitioners – requesting that gender affirming surgery be covered by Medicare **(EN5257)**

From 94 petitioners – requesting that the ACMA not be granted new powers in relation to misinformation **(EN5258)**

From 69 petitioners – requesting that staff to patient ratios be improved in residential aged care facilities **(EN5259)**

From 42 petitioners – requesting the determination of the Russian Imperial Movement as a terrorist organisation **(EN5260)**

From 7 petitioners – requesting that popular event ticket queue systems display estimated waiting times **(EN5262)**

From 309 petitioners – requesting an end to the working hour cap for international students **(EN5263)**

From 2248 petitioners – requesting the prevention of the ACT government's takeover of Calvary Hospital **(EN5264)**

From 13 petitioners – requesting sanctions on Israel for breaches of UN policies **(EN5265)**

From 149 petitioners – requesting the removal of benefits for former Prime Ministers and Members of Parliament **(EN5267)**

From 25 petitioners – requesting a cessation on the introduction of the Felixer grooming trap **(EN5268)**

From 8 petitioners – requesting that online poker be removed from the *Interactive Gambling Act 2001* **(EN5272)**

From 31 petitioners – requesting the imposition of penalties for airlines that do not adequately compensate after delays or cancellation **(EN5275)**

From 32 petitioners – regarding the right to repair **(EN5278)**

From 32 petitioners – requesting that Australia supply Ukraine with Hawkei vehicles **(EN5279)**

From 11 petitioners – requesting that the RBA stop increasing the cash rate and lower it to 2% **(EN5281)**

From 12 petitioners – requesting permanent resident pathways for 485 visa holders who are working in skilled occupations **(EN5284)**

From 20 petitioners – requesting the lowering of interest rates and electricity prices **(EN5285)**

From 43 petitioners – requesting that the Australian national anthem be changed to 'I am Australian' **(EN5286)**

From 1411 petitioners – requesting the reduction of processing times for the offshore partner visa SC309 **(EN5288)**

From 14 petitioners – requesting access to a humanitarian visa **(EN5289)**

From 2477 petitioners – requesting that the Communications Legislation Amendment (Combatting Misinformation and Disinformation) Bill 2023 not be passed **(EN5295)**

From 10 petitioners – requesting regular maintenance of public EV chargers **(EN5297)**

From 130 petitioners – requesting a ban on fracking in Australia **(EN5299)**

From 14 petitioners – requesting the introduction of a housing allowance **(EN5300)**

From 649 petitioners – requesting greater access to physiotherapy sessions through Medicare **(EN5302)**

From 12 petitioners – requesting changes to the pay rate for disability employment services consultants **(EN5304)**

From 59 petitioners – requesting regulation or banning of short-term rentals to assist Australia's housing crisis **(EN5307)**

From 1068 petitioners – requesting the investigation of the merits of providing all Australians with a Universal Basic Income **(EN5308)**

From 32 petitioners – regarding the publishing of photos of fatal scenes without the consent of the deceased's family **(EN5313)**

From 356 petitioners – requesting advocacy for victims of violence in Parachinar **(EN5316)**

From 48 petitioners – requesting better fuel standards and cleaner air for Australia **(EN5317)**

From 157 petitioners – requesting that freedom of speech be enshrined in the Australian Constitution **(EN5318)**

From 57 petitioners – requesting that Australia supply stored tanks to Ukraine **(EN5319)**

From 58 petitioners – requesting that research students receive a living wage **(EN5321)**

From 673 petitioners – requesting a detailed financial analysis of taxpayer funded ATSI programs **(EN5324)**

From 391 petitioners – requesting an extension to the Defence Abuse Reparation Scheme under DART **(EN5328)**

From 9040 petitioners – regarding Australians' right to access financial and banking services **(EN5329)**

From 5282 petitioners – requesting a cessation to the development of a wind farm off the Port Stephens coast **(EN5332)**

### **Petitions certified on 9 August 2023**

From 220 petitioners – regarding the cessation of the development of offshore windfarms near Port Stephens **(EN5334)**

From 25 petitioners – regarding the development of nuclear fusion reactors **(EN5335)**

From 1785 petitioners – requesting clear and reasonable timeframes for visa 191 processing **(EN5341)**

From 27 petitioners – regarding the regulation of DNA tests from Ancestry **(EN5342)**

From 28 petitioners – requesting removal of 60-day scripts **(EN5343)**

From 2036 petitioners – requesting that the Myanmar Junta’s revenue sources be sanctioned **(EN5344)**

From 37 petitioners – requesting sustainable water solutions for new developments **(EN5345)**

From 1914 petitioners – requesting the establishment of a national eczema strategy to end suboptimal management **(EN5346)**

From 383 petitioners – requesting that purchasing a house be made easier for 491 visa holders **(EN5347)**

From 65 petitioners – regarding Members’ conduct in Parliament during speeches **(EN5348)**

## **2. The following 35 ministerial responses to petitions were received:**

### ***Ministerial responses received by the Committee on 6 September 2023***

From the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government to a petition regarding the funding and development of an arena in Canberra **(EN4104)**

From the Minister for the Arts to a petition regarding the funding and development of G.I. Jane 2 **(EN4114)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition regarding the ministerial response to EN3329, EN3264, EN3288, EN3296, and EN3328 **(EN4204)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs to a petition requesting formal recognition of Taiwanese statehood and a commitment to its defence **(EN4268)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition requesting to amend the *Interactive Gambling Act 2001* to include games containing loot boxes, in-game currencies operating secondary markets and microtransactions **(EN4272)**



From the Minister for Foreign Affairs to a petition requesting a ban on Australian companies and individuals from trading with Russian Federation-based entities **(EN4276)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs to a petition regarding increasing military support to Ukraine **(EN4279)**

From the Minister for Veterans' Affairs to a petition regarding dedicated PTSD counselling for generational victims **(EN4294)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs to a petition regarding the extradition of Julian Assange **(EN4310)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition requesting that social media be banned for children under 18 years of age **(EN4314)**

From the Minister for Emergency Management to a petition regarding integrated transport and flood resilience solutions for the western suburbs of Brisbane **(EN4326)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs to a petition regarding the situation in Jammu and Kashmir **(EN4356)**

From the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to a petition regarding the enforcement of biosecurity measures to keep Australia free of foot-and-mouth disease **(EN4368)**

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister to a petition requesting the Australian National Flag and state flags be changed to remove the Union Jack **(EN4369)**

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister to a petition requesting a change to the Australian National Anthem to 'I am Australian' **(EN4444)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition requesting the introduction of a new classification for all media containing depictions of non-consensual sexual acts **(EN4451)**

From the Minister for Education to a petition requesting changes to the Australian curriculum to support education around human evolution **(EN4467)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition requesting an independent review into the ABC's conduct and perceived bias **(EN4823)**

From the Acting Minister for Health and Aged Care to a petition requesting access to Medicare for visiting or migrating aged parents **(EN4843)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition regarding withdrawal of ABC Triple J's sponsorship and funding of Groovin' the Moo music festival **(EN4854)**

From the Attorney-General to a petition regarding an extradition matter involving Mr Talalelei Pauga **(EN4889)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition requesting a Royal Commission into the Murdoch media **(EN4891)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition regarding the harassment of women online **(EN4913)**

From the Attorney-General to a petition regarding filming in public places **(EN4966)**

From the Attorney-General to a petition regarding the abolition of State governments **(EN4990)**

From the Attorney-General to a petition regarding mandatory cognitive testing of prospective Members of Parliament **(EN5008)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition requesting a ban on sending unsolicited images online **(EN5010)**

From the Attorney-General to a petition requesting the establishment of a transgender voice to Parliament **(EN5011)**

From the Minister for Communications to a petition requesting that mobile phones be banned for use by children under 16 years of age **(EN5013)**

From the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government to a petition regarding stopping the development of Macquarie Point Stadium in Hobart **(EN5092)**

From the Minister for Education to a petition requesting a Royal Commission into teaching in Australia **(EN5116)**

From the Attorney-General to a petition regarding dual citizenship of Members of Parliament **(EN5126)**

From the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government to a petition requesting changes to flight patterns of aircraft departing from Brisbane Airport **(EN5132)**

From the Minister for the Arts to a petition regarding removing the 1 per cent cap applied to radio broadcast licence fees **(EN5134)**

From the Acting Minister for Health and Aged Care to a petition regarding a Royal Commission into COVID-19 vaccine-related deaths **(EN5149)**

**Ms Susan Templeman MP**  
**Chair – Petitions Committee**