

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PETITIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 6

Petitions

and

Ministerial Responses

13 February 2017

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Chair	Mr Ross Vasta MP
Deputy Chair	Hon Justine Elliot MP
	Mr Russell Broadbent MP
	Mr Scott Buchholz MP
	Mr Steve Georganas MP
	Mr Ben Morton MP
	Mr Ken O'Dowd MP

Report relating to the consideration of petitions and matters relating to the petitions system

The committee met in private session on Wednesday 30 November 2016, 16 December 2016, 17 January 2017 and 8 February 2017.

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

From 1339 petitioners—calling for the formal recognition of the state of Palestine. **(PN0025)**

From 80 petitioners—calling for all refugees and asylum seekers on Nauru and Manus Island to be brought to Australia. **(PN0040)**

From 1588 petitioners – calling for Australia to withdraw from any conflict in Syria. **(PN0044)**

From 106 petitioners – calling for all refugees and asylum seekers on Nauru and Manus Island to be brought to Australia and provided with resettlement options. **(PN0045)**

From 1352 petitioners – calling for continuation in funding for the Kentish Health Centre and continuation of services. **(PN0047)**

From 1 petitioner – calling for funding of the Marine Highway in Tasmania to be restored and equalised. **(PN0048)**

From 70 petitioners – calling for a reversal of the reduction in funding for the Trove archive of the National Library **(PN0049)**

From 10767 petitioners – calling for an immediate end to the persecution of Falun Gong in China. **(PN0050)**

From 49 petitioners – calling for legal representation to be allowed for individuals appearing before the Veterans Review Board. **(EN0044)**

From 11 petitioners – calling for the implementation of a federal Independent Commission against Corruption. **(EN0045)**

From 6 petitioners – calling for changes to the Constitution to prevent the repeal of the Commonwealth Death Penalty. **(EN0046)**

From 536 petitioners – calling for the exclusion of Military Superannuation Benefits Scheme and Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefit, invalidity benefits to the Family Law Superannuation Regulations. **(EN0047)**

From 18 petitioners – calling for the repealing of Section 18C of the Racial Discrimination Act. **(EN0048)**

From 178 petitioners – calling for Kangaroo Island to be added to the remote areas list for taxation purposes. **(EN0049)**

From 5 petitioners – calling continuation of the provision of pensioner concessions on water, electricity and local council rates etc. **(EN0050)**

From 17 petitioners – calling for access to student loans for certain arts diplomas in the VET sector to be reinstated. **(EN0052)**

From 5107 petitioners – calling for a drop in the tax on tobacco products. **(EN0056)**

From 28 petitioners – calling for a deposit scheme and an increase in the first home buyers program to be put in place to help families get in to the housing market. **(EN0060)**

From 5 petitioners – calling for a gun amnesty and buyback scheme in all states and territories to be held on a regular basis and more to be done to prevent illegal importation. **(EN0062)**

From 264 petitioners – calling for discussions to take place regarding a permanent sea boundary for Timor Leste. **(EN0063)**

From 15 petitioners – calling for a bill to allow citizens to sponsor and act as guardians for refugee families. **(EN0066)**

From 1 petitioner – calling for an increase in the number of refugees being accepted, particularly from the United States of America. **(EN0067)**

From 3 petitioners – calling a reduction in Medicare payment for scans done on older machines. **(EN0070)**

From 4 petitioners – calling for a program of nation building activities to take place. **(EN0072)**

From 12 petitioners – calling for a women’s only beach in Perth. **(EN0073)**

From 5 petitioners – calling tougher sentencing for criminals and deportation of convicted non Australian born citizens. **(EN0074)**

From 3 petitioners – calling for changes to the Human Rights Commission to curtail freedoms of certain groups. **(EN0075)**

From 4 petitioners – calling for a ban of the anti-discrimination Article 18C. **(EN0076)**

From 1 petitioner – calling for more prayers to be done in Parliament. **(EN0077)**

From 1 petitioner – calling for a total ban for the Army and making Australia a totally zero violence country. **(EN0079)**

From 8 petitioners – calling the decision to cancel the CTV transmitter licences to be revoked. **(EN0081)**

From 60 petitioners – calling for in country Humanitarian visa applications to be considered on a case by case basis. **(EN0082)**

From 5 petitioners – calling for the mandatory installation of air-conditioning in elderly people’s homes. **(EN0083)**

From 170 petitioners – calling for the modification of the Charter of Budget honesty. **(EN0084)**

From 2 petitioners – calling for the review and change to current 19AB legislation of Health Insurance Act 1973. **(EN0085)**

From 138 petitioners – calling for the review and change to current 19AB legislation of Health Insurance Act 1973. **(EN0087)**

From 305 petitioners – calling for the implementation of results of the review of illegal, offshore wagering. **(EN0088)**

The following ministerial responses to petitions were received:

From the Minister for Revenue and Financial Services—to a petition concerning the removal of the powers of the Superannuation Complaints Tribunal to review death benefits. **(1151/1659)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs —to a petition seeking an end to persecution of Falun Gong. **(1162/1670)**

From the Minister for Regional Communications —to a petition regarding Mobile phone coverage in Wasleys SA. **(1164/1672)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding the citizenship status of the Member for Warringah. **(PN0004)**

From the Minister for the Environment and Energy —to a petition regarding Environmental impacts of tourism development in Mount Tamborine. **(PN0011)**

From the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources—to a petition regarding milk prices and dairy farmers. **(PN0017)**

From the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources—to a petition regarding milk prices and dairy farmers. **(PN0018)**

From the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources—to a petition regarding milk prices and dairy farmers. **(PN0019)**

From the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources—to a petition regarding milk prices and dairy farmers. **(PN0020)**

From the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources—to a petition regarding milk prices and dairy farmers. **(PN0021)**

From the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport —to a petition regarding Funding for roads in Victoria. **(PN0027)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding Regional processing and settlement arrangements. **(PN0031)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding Regional processing and settlement arrangements. **(PN0035)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding ministerial intervention for Mr Clive Ingram. **(PN0037)**

From the Attorney-General—to a petition regarding marriage equality. **(EN0003)**

From the Attorney-General—to a petition regarding marriage equality legislation. **(EN0007)**

From the Minister for Foreign Affairs —to a petition regarding the West Papua province. **(EN0024)**

From the Attorney-General—to a petition regarding a plebiscite for amendments to the Marriage Act. **(EN0027)**

From the Minister for Employment—to a petition regarding the setting of a new public holiday. **(EN0039)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—to a petition regarding Regional processing and settlement arrangements. **(EN0040)**

From the Minister for Employment—to a petition regarding the removal of long-term labour casualization. **(EN0042)**

The terms of the petitions and the responses will be recorded in Hansard.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ross Vasta', is positioned above the printed name.

Mr Ross Vasta MP

Chair - Petitions Committee

