

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PETITIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 18

Petitions

and

Ministerial Responses

9 November 2020

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Chair	Mr Ken O'Dowd MP
Deputy Chair	Hon Justine Elliot MP
	Mrs Bridget Archer MP
	Ms Lisa Chesters MP
	Ms Gladys Liu MP
	Mr Julian Simmonds MP
	Mr James Stevens MP
	Ms Susan Templeman MP

The Committee met in private session on 7 October and 28 October 2020

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

Petitions certified on 7 October 2020

From 637 petitioners - requesting for parental leave to be extended for stay at home dads **(EN1838)**

From 26 petitioners - regarding changes to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* **(EN1839)**

From 8 petitioners - regarding subsection 9(6) of the *Coronavirus Economic Response Package (Payments and Benefits) Rules 2020* **(EN1840)**

From 128 petitioners – requesting to lift the cap on citizens returning to Australia **(EN1852)**

From 29 petitioners - requesting a referendum to establish Australia as a Republic **(EN1853)**

From 432 petitioners - regarding the Australian Broadcasting Commission's reporting on Falun Gong **(EN1854)**

From 24 petitioners - requesting recognition of the Government of Tibet in exile **(EN1855)**

From 23 petitioners - requesting for any COVID-19 vaccine to be properly tested for efficacy and safety **(EN1859)**

From 184 petitioners - requesting for the better protection of koalas **(EN1862)**

From 270 petitioners - requesting for better resourcing of the Department of Veterans' Affairs to assist with expediting claims **(EN1867)**

From 7 petitioners - regarding deposits held for land purchases during COVID-19 **(EN1868)**

From 4 petitioners - requesting a reduction of aircraft noise at Brisbane airport **(EN1869)**

From 3 petitioners - requesting immigration exemptions for certain New Zealand citizens **(EN1870)**

From 3 petitioners - requesting assistance for temporary residents during COVID-19 **(EN1874)**

From 73 petitioners - requesting for partner visa processing for onshore and offshore applicants to recommence **(EN1875)**

From 189 petitioners - requesting that the decisions to close borders be referred to the High Court **(EN1879)**

From 2 petitioners - requesting an investigation into mass rejection of applicants for regional skilled migration visas **(EN1880)**

From 3 petitioners - requesting an extension of Temporary Graduate visa – Subclass 485 **(EN1881)**

From 4 petitioners - requesting further restrictions on nicotine products, vaccines and other matters of health concern **(EN1882)**

From 5 petitioners - requesting for certain families to be permitted to depart from Australia **(EN1883)**

From 214 petitioners - requesting changes to the COVID-19 public health response **(EN1884)**

From 18 petitioners - requesting a resumption of the processing of prospective marriage visas **(EN1885)**

From 15 petitioners - requesting a referendum for the removal of state governments **(EN1890)**

From 256 petitioners - requesting a revision of the criteria for travel exemptions **(EN1892)**

From 949 petitioners - requesting that temporary visa holders be permitted to return to Australia **(EN1893)**

From 14 petitioners - requesting that foetal cell lines not be used in the development of a COVID-19 vaccine **(EN1895)**

From 25 petitioners - requesting overseas partners be permitted to return to Australia **(EN1896)**

From 10 petitioners – requesting the laws around public photography be updated **(EN1897)**

From 3 petitioners - requesting for a resumption of the search for Gulf Livestock 1 survivors **(EN1898)**

From 5 petitioners - requesting for a resumption of the search for Gulf Livestock 1 survivors **(EN1900)**

From 5 petitioners - requesting for a repeal of Section 487 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* **(EN1902)**

From 177 petitioners - requesting that students be exempt from international travel restrictions **(EN1903)**

From 28 petitioners - requesting changes to the ban on entry for Prospective Marriage visa holders (Subclass 300) **(EN1904)**

From 34 petitioners - requesting funding for the construction of a Bruce Highway four lane Tiaro bypass **(EN1910)**

From 170 petitioners - requesting a ban on social media for people under the age of 18 **(EN1913)**

From 102 petitioners - requesting support for Uyghur Muslims in China **(EN1914)**

From 73 petitioners - requesting the return of capital punishment for repeat offenders of sexual crimes against children **(EN1915)**

From 117 petitioners - requesting majority consent on determining state of disasters or emergencies and for international treaties **(EN1916)**

From 26 petitioners - requesting that any links to slavery be excluded from appearing on Australian Coins **(EN1918)**

From 1,444 petitioners - requesting a ban on political donations from fossil fuel industry participants **(EN1919)**

From 13 petitioners - requesting a limited tenure for ministers **(EN1922)**

From 4 petitioners - requesting a removal of the independent wages tribunal **(EN1923)**

From 21 petitioners - requesting for superannuation to be the same for all working Australians **(EN1925)**

From 7 petitioners - requesting changes to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for chronic pain management **(EN1926)**

From 240 petitioners - requesting removal of the outbound travel ban **(EN1932)**

From 83 petitioners - requesting for the resumption of international travel **(EN1934)**

From 255 petitioners – requesting a vaccine indemnity **(EN1939)**

From 20 petitioners - requesting the establishment of new coal power stations **(EN1940)**

From 2,898 petitioners - requesting the rejection of a gas led future in favour of renewables **(EN1942)**

From 66 petitioners - requesting a ban on online chat sites that display illegal activities **(EN1943)**

From 96 petitioners - requesting for self-funded hotel quarantine options for tourists to Australia **(EN1944)**

From 43 petitioners - requesting changes to appointment requirements of Principal Members of the Veterans' Review Board **(EN1946)**

From 501 petitioners - requesting nationally consistent coercive control laws
(EN1948)

The following ministerial responses to petitions were received:

Ministerial responses considered on 28 October 2020

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Cabinet – to a petition requesting the House of Representatives to call for the resignation of the Minister for Indigenous Australians **(EN1297)**

From the Assistant Minister for Customs, Community Safety and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding temporary visa holders in Australia during COVID-19 **(EN1472)**

From the Minister for Families and Social Services – to a petition regarding the increase in the rate of Carer Allowance **(EN1602)**

From the Minister for Indigenous Australians – to a petition regarding the review by Deloitte Access Economics of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and their recommendations **(EN1633)**

Mr Ken O’Dowd

Chair – Petitions Committee