

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

**REPORT No. 23**

**Petitions**

**and**

**Ministerial Responses**

**15 March 2021**



## **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 |



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

**The committee met in private session on 3 February and 24 February 2021**

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

***Petitions certified on 3 February***

From 4 petitioners – regarding National Disability Insurance Scheme participants and workers **(EN2268)**

From 5 petitioners – requesting an increase in tariffs and continued economic sanctions against China **(EN2269)**

From 2 petitioners – requesting an inquiry into the customer service provided by Australia’s telecommunications companies **(EN2270)**

From 766 petitioners – regarding the COVID-19 vaccine and conditions of employment **(EN2272)**

From 3 petitioners – requesting an Australian Centre for Disease Control **(EN2274)**

From 6 petitioners – regarding women and surgical sterilization **(EN2276)**

From 41 petitioners – regarding Australia’s COVID-19 international arrival restrictions and quarantine arrangements **(EN2277)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding compulsory superannuation in Australia **(EN2279)**

From 16 petitioners – regarding outbound international travel and the COVID-19 vaccine **(EN2280)**

From 149 petitioners – regarding Australia’s COVID-19 international arrival restrictions and quarantine arrangements **(EN2282)**

From 1175 petitioners – regarding Australia’s COVID-19 international arrival restrictions **(EN2283)**

From 311 petitioners – regarding the impacts of COVID-19 on Skilled - Recognised Graduate visa holders **(EN2296)**

From 342 petitioners – regarding Australia’s COVID-19 international arrival restrictions and quarantine arrangements **(EN2298)**

From 6 petitioners – regarding the Asian Development Fund and the Pacific Private Sector Development Initiative **(EN2299)**

From 24 petitioners – regarding the Paris Agreement **(EN2306)**

From 1930 petitioners – regarding Australia’s COVID-19 international arrival restrictions and quarantine arrangements **(EN2311)**

From 6 petitioners – regarding Australia’s COVID-19 international arrival restrictions **(EN2313)**

From 545 petitioners – regarding legislation preventing the Australian Government from enacting mandatory COVID-19 vaccines **(EN2314)**

From 18 petitioners – requesting legislation to ensure all Australian businesses accept all forms of Australian legal tender **(EN2315)**

From 32 petitioners – regarding the prevention of future health pandemics **(EN2316)**

From 4 petitioners – requesting an extension of JobKeeper Payment support for the travel and tourism industry **(EN2320)**

From 2081 petitioners – requesting the Department of Home Affairs speed up the processing of Skilled Regional visas (subclass 887) **(EN2321)**

From 21 petitioners – requesting an Australian Government flight and quarantine program for returning Australians **(EN2323)**

From 13 petitioners – regarding Australia’s COVID-19 international arrival restrictions and quarantine arrangements **(EN2324)**

From 56 petitioners – regarding the National Broadband Network **(EN2325)**

From 285 petitioners – regarding public liability insurance and Australian small businesses **(EN2326)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding Australia’s COVID-19 international arrival restrictions **(EN2328)**

From 12 petitioners – regarding Australia’s COVID-19 international arrival restrictions **(EN2330)**

From 54 petitioners – regarding disinformation and climate change **(EN2331)**

From 4 petitioners – regarding superannuation funds and member control of the investment of their super contributions **(EN2332)**

From 270 petitioners – regarding an urgent care doctor shortage in Morayfield and Caboolture **(EN2333)**

From 9300 petitioners – requesting Medicare to cover primary dental care **(EN2334)**

From 5 petitioners – requesting the date of Australia Day be changed **(EN2336)**

From 14 petitioners – regarding the availability of Australian superannuation funds for New Zealand first home buyers **(EN2337)**



From 1090 petitioners – regarding Singaporean students and entry into Australia for on-campus learning **(EN2338)**

From 77 petitioners – regarding Section 122 of the Constitution of Australia **(EN2341)**

From 112 petitioners – requesting the date of Australia Day be changed **(EN2342)**

***Petitions certified on 24 February***

From 115 petitioners – requesting relocation and support for asylum seekers and refugees detained offshore **(PN0500)**

From 2146 petitioners – regarding the persecution and organ harvesting of Falun Gong in China **(PN0501)**

**The following ministerial responses to petitions were received:**

***Ministerial responses considered on 24 February***

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Cabinet – to a petition regarding changing the date of Australia Day **(EN1670)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding the Partner visa program **(EN1677)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition requesting a restart of the citizenship tests and interviews process or changes to this process **(EN1697)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition seeking a review and clarification of Australia’s travel restrictions as part of the Australian Government’s response to COVID-19 **(EN1698)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition seeking a review of Australia’s travel restrictions for immediate family members entering and leaving Australia **(EN1780)**

From the Minister for Home Affairs – to a petition requesting the inclusion of parents of Australian citizens and permanent residents as immediate family members for the purpose of exemption from Australia’s travel restrictions **(EN1860)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding the refusal of nomination and visa applications lodged under the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (subclass 187) visa program between December 2017 and March 2018 **(EN1880)**

From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding temporary Graduate visa holders and travel exemptions **(EN1881)**

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Cabinet – to a petition requesting a limited tenure for ministers **(EN1922)**

From the Minister for the Environment – to a petition regarding Australia’s commitment to stemming biodiversity loss and the destruction of natural habitats **(EN1959)**

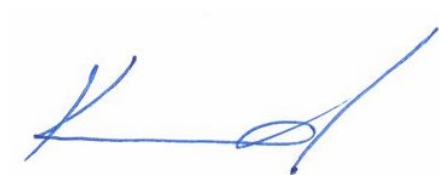
From the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs – to a petition regarding extending the length of stay for visitors on Visitor (subclass 600) visas until the COVID-19 pandemic ends **(EN1978)**

From the Minister for Regional Health, Regional Communications and Local Government – to a petition regarding the inclusion of Flagstone, QLD, in the next round of the Black Spot Program **(EN1991)**

From the Minister for Regional Health, Regional Communications and Local Government – to a petition regarding a lack of reliable internet and phone reception in Woorinen, Victoria **(EN1993)**

From the Assistant Minister to the Attorney-General – to a petition regarding the *Extradition Act 1988* **(EN2000)**

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Cabinet – to a petition regarding mandatory psychological assessments for Australian Prime Ministers **(EN2024)**



**Mr Ken O'Dowd**

**Chair – Petitions Committee**