

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PETITIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 10

Petitions

and

Ministerial Responses

22 May 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 1 March, Wednesday 22 March, Wednesday 29 March, and Wednesday 10 May 2017.

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

From 1283 petitioners – requesting that the proposed Western Sydney Airport not go ahead **(PN0058)**

From 149 petitioners – requesting the reversal of funding cuts to the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program **(PN0059)**

From 16 petitioners – asking for the removal of the tax exempt status of the Catholic Church **(EN0138)**

From 10 petitioners - calling for the investigation of the legitimacy of the Alliance of Forgotten Australians **(EN0141)**

From 245 petitioners – requesting the introduction of a tax on sugar **(EN0146)**

From 16 petitioners – requesting the words ‘disabled’ and ‘disability’ be replaced with ‘para-abled’ and ‘parability’ in all NDIS and NDIA documentation **(EN0147)**

From 63 petitioners – calling for the decriminalisation of cannabis **(EN0153)**

From 6 petitioners – requesting information from the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection as to whether a parent can fill out information of an adult child on citizenship forms in 1981 **(EN0154)**

From 11203 petitioners – calling for the reclassification of Islam as a religion **(EN0155)**

From 3 petitioners – requesting for an alternative to fully body scans at international airports **(EN0158)**

From 114 petitioners – requesting that all politicians be put on minimum wage **(EN0159)**

From 17 petitioners – requesting that all those on the dole for over one year be cut off **(EN0160)**

From 14 petitioners – calling for the use of sound detection software in mobile phones to prevent people from using phones while driving **(EN0161)**

From 89 petitioners – calling for Brisbane Airport to comply with the Brisbane Airport masterplan **(EN0163)**

From 5 petitioners – requesting for the Australian Classification Board to be stripped of its powers to ban certain media **(EN0165)**

From 9 petitioners – requesting for optic fibre cables to be installed from the telephone exchange **(EN0166)**

From 182 petitioners– requesting for legislation to be introduced against encouraging suicide **(EN0168)**

From 31 petitioners – requesting the criminalisation of image-based sexual assault **(EN0169)**

From 30 petitioners – requesting the House debate on how to give WA a fair share of GST revenue **(EN0170)**

From 77 petitioners – calling for the Australian Defence Force to be responsible for responding to terrorist incidents **(EN0171)**

The following ministerial responses to petitions were received:

From the Minister for Communications and the Arts – to a petition regarding the prioritisation of NBN rollout in Cowan **(EN0001)**

From the Minister for Social Services – to a petition regarding family assistance rates **(EN0034)**

From the Minister for Veterans Affairs – to a petition regarding legal representatives for applicants to the Veterans' Review Board **(EN0044)**

From the Minister for Social Services – to a petition regarding the review of state concessions **(EN0050)**

From the Minister for Education and Training – to a petition regarding the VET student loans approved course list **(EN0052)**

From the Treasurer – to a petition requesting for the tax on cigarettes to be lowered **(EN0056)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection – to a petition regarding the private sponsorship of refugees **(EN0066)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection – to a petition regarding Australia's refugee intake **(EN0067)**

From the Minister for Women – to a petition regarding a woman only beach **(EN0073)**

From the Attorney-General – to a petition regarding the repeal of section 18C of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* **(EN0076)**

From the Speaker – to a petition regarding Queen’s birthday public holiday, and God and prayers in the House of Representatives **(EN0077)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection – to a petition regarding in-country humanitarian visas **(EN0082)**

From the Minister for Aged Care – to a petition regarding air conditioning for elderly people **(EN0083)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection – to a petition regarding asylum seekers **(EN0085)**

From the Minister for Health – to a petition regarding changes to 19AB legislation of the Health Insurance Act 1973 **(EN0087)**

From the Minister for Human Services – to a petition regarding action on recommendation 15 of the *Review of Illegal Offshore Wagering* **(EN0088)**

From the Prime Minister – to a petition regarding a change of the Australian National Anthem **(EN0094)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection – to a petition regarding the Australian Government’s regional processing and settlement arrangements **(EN0101)**

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister – to a petition regarding Australia’s cooperation with the United States **(EN0117)**

From the Special Minister of State – to a petition regarding lowering of the voting age **(EN0119)**

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister – to a petition regarding an official visit from the United States President **(EN0123)**

From the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister – to a petition regarding the United States immigration policies **(EN0124)**

From the Minister for Communications and the Arts – to a petition regarding prioritisation of the NBN rollout in Cowan **(PN0029)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection – to a petition regarding the Australian Government’s regional processing and settlement arrangements **(PN0045)**

From the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection – to a petition regarding ministerial intervention for immigration **(PN0046)**

From the Minister for Health – to a petition regarding services at Kentish Health Centre, Tasmania **(PN0047)**

From the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport – to a petition regarding the restoration and equalisation of the Marine Highway between Tasmania and mainland Australia **(PN0048)**

From the Minister for Communication and the Arts – to a petition regarding funding for Trove at the National Library of Australia **(PN0049)**

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ross Vasta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Mr Ross Vasta MP

Chair - Petitions Committee