

Ministerial responses — Report 7 of 2024¹

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**THE HON RICHARD MARLES MP
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
MINISTER FOR DEFENCE**

Ref No: MS24-001301

Mr Josh Burns MP
Chair
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Chair *Josh*

Thank you for your correspondence of 27 June 2024 relating to the *Defence Amendment (Parliamentary Joint Committee on Defence) Bill 2024* (the Bill).

The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights sought information from me relating to certain provisions of the Bill. I note a response to the Committee was not possible prior to the Bill being debated. I can advise that the Bill was not agreed to by the Senate on 4 July 2024 and is not proceeding.

Should the Government choose to reintroduce the Bill in the future, Defence will take the Committee's concerns into consideration in its policy and drafting process and provide a detailed response to the Committee through the formal processes.

I trust this information is of assistance to the Committee and thank the Committee for its work on the Bill.

Yours sincerely

RICHARD MARLES

13/8/24