

# Australian Government response to the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee report:

Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (2021 Measures No. 1) Bill 2021

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## Overview

The Australian Government thanks the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee (the Committee) for its work in producing the report into the Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (2021 Measures No. 1) Bill 2021.

The Australian Government notes that the Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (2021 Measures No. 1) Bill 2021 passed both Houses on 23 June 2021 and received Royal Assent (Act no. 62) on 29 June 2021.

The Australian Government's responses to the recommendations have been superseded by the release of *Revive*: a place for every story, a story for every place – Australia's cultural policy for the next five years, on 30 January 2023.

*Revive* was developed through extensive consultation across the arts, entertainment and cultural sector.

*Revive* is available at <a href="https://www.arts.gov.au/what-we-do/new-national-cultural-policy">https://www.arts.gov.au/what-we-do/new-national-cultural-policy</a>. Printed copies are available to the Committee on request.

# Australian Government response

The Australian Government's response to Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (2021 Measures No. 1) Bill 2021 is set out in detail below.

#### Recommendation 1:

The committee recommends that Schedule 1 of the bill be withdrawn and that the Government expedites a response to the recent Media Reform Green Paper consultations and introduces measures to harmonise the regulatory framework for Australian content obligations.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

#### Recommendation 2:

The committee recommends that the Government considers mechanisms through which Australia can capture a greater share of post-production work for film and television projects produced in Australia.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

#### Recommendation 3:

The committee recommends that future iterations of the Regional and Small Publishers Innovation Fund, or similar funds established in the future, include a framework for an outcomes or effects test enabling the decision-maker to exercise discretion to award funding consistent with the intended outcome(s) of the program, despite an unintended technical non-compliance where the applicant would in all other regards be compliant and competitive.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

### Recommendation 4:

The committee recommends that the amended bill be passed.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.