

Dear Labor government,

Re: Submission on the Criminal Code Amendment (Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes) Bill 2024

I am writing to express my strong support for the Criminal Code Amendment (Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes) Bill 2024. This bill represents a critical step towards ensuring justice for victims of the gravest human rights violations and preventing future atrocities.

Genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes are among the most heinous offenses known to humanity. The introduction of this bill aligns Australia with international standards and obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and other human rights treaties. By codifying these crimes into domestic law, Australia reinforces its commitment to upholding human dignity, protecting vulnerable populations, and promoting global justice.

The key provisions of the bill, which include clear definitions of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes, are essential for the effective prosecution and deterrence of these atrocities. The bill's emphasis on accountability ensures that perpetrators, regardless of their position or status, can be held responsible for their actions. This is a significant advancement in the fight against impunity.

Furthermore, the bill's provisions for victim support and reparation are commendable. They not only address the immediate needs of survivors but also contribute to their long-term recovery and empowerment. This holistic approach is crucial for healing communities and rebuilding societies affected by such crimes.

In addition, the bill's focus on prevention through education and public awareness is vital. By fostering a culture of respect for human rights and the rule of law, we can work towards a future where such atrocities are not only punishable but also unthinkable.

I urge the committee to consider the profound impact this legislation will have on both national and international levels. It is imperative that Australia leads by example in the global effort to eradicate genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.

Thank you for considering my submission. I am confident that the enactment of this bill will significantly contribute to the protection of human rights and the promotion of justice worldwide.

Yours sincerely,

Randel and the whole Gadigal land.