



Hearings continue on Citizenship Amendment (Allegiance to Australia) Bill

Parliament's Intelligence and Security committee will hold a further public hearing today, Monday 10 August for its inquiry into the Citizenship Amendment (Allegiance to Australia) Bill 2015.

The Committee will again hear from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, ASIO, Attorney-General's Department and the Australian Federal Police (appearing together), followed by the Australian Human Rights Commission.

If enacted, the Bill would provide that a dual citizen may, through certain conduct 'incompatible with the safety and shared values of the Australian community', demonstrate they have renounced their Australian citizenship. The amendments apply to a person regardless of how they became an Australian citizen, but only apply to dual citizens who would not be rendered stateless if their Australian citizenship were to cease.

The Chair of the Committee, Mr Dan Tehan MP, said "The Committee will hear further evidence from representatives of the Commonwealth agencies charged with protecting the Australian community, in addition to the Australian Human Rights Commission, on the proposed mechanisms for the automatic loss of citizenship and how they might operate in practice."

"The Committee is examining the appropriateness of the regime proposed in the Bill and whether it achieves its aim of protecting the Australian community and upholding our common values," Mr Tehan said.

Details of the hearing are as follows:

Monday, 10 August 2015

4pm to 6pm

Committee Room 2R1

The Committee has received 42 written submissions to the inquiry and has been asked to report by 21 August 2015.

Further information about the inquiry, including copies of submissions, can be accessed via the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/pjcis>. The Bill and Explanatory Memorandum can be accessed via http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Bills_Legislation.

For media comment, please contact the Office of the Chair, Dan Tehan MP, on 02 6277 4393.

For inquiry information, please contact the Committee Secretariat on 02 6277 2360 or email citizenship.reps@aph.gov.au.