



31 March 2023

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Via email: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary

Inquiry into the provisions of the Inspector-General of Aged Care Bill 2023 and the Inspector-General of Aged Care (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2023

LGBTIQ+ Health Australia (LHA) welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the provisions of the Inspector-General of Aged Care Bill 2023 and the Inspector-General of Aged Care (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2023 (the Bills). LHA is the national peak organisation promoting the health and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ people and communities. We are uniquely placed with membership across states and territories and strategically positioned to provide a national focus to improving the health and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ people.

Given the tight turn-around on provision of submissions, LHA has not been able to review the Bills to assess whether they address LHA's key concerns, as outlined in LHA's letter of 27 January 2023 to Inspector-General of Aged Care Taskforce, attached here. To reiterate LHA calls for:

- the inclusion in the Bills of appropriate references to human rights standards and mechanisms, relevant to aged care. In particular, there needs to be stronger alignment with the planned human rights approach of the new Act and to ensure the Inspector-General is able to enforce it.
- the Aged Care system and the oversight mechanisms such as the Inspector General to address the diverse needs of LGBTI older people the specific experiences and needs of older LGBTI people.

These issues must be addressed to ensure that Inspector-General can materially improve the quality of experience of LGBTI older people in the aged care system. To discuss this submission, you can contact Michael Frommer, Policy & Research Lead – Ageing:

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

James Zanotto
Policy, Research and Communications Director
LGBTIQ+ Health Australia