



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY

Issue date: 9 March 2018

Committee to review declaration of Mosul District

The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security (PJCIS) has commenced an inquiry into the Foreign Affairs Minister's declaration of Mosul District, Ninewa Province in Iraq.

Mosul district was first declared on 3 March 2015 for a period of three years.

Section 119.3 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995* enables the Foreign Affairs Minister to declare an area in a foreign country in which he or she is satisfied that a listed terrorist organisation is engaging in hostile activity. Under the Act, a person commits an offence if they enter or remain in a declared area, unless they entered or remained in that area solely for legitimate purposes. The Act provides that the Committee may review the Foreign Affairs Minister's declaration within a period in which the declaration may be disallowed by the Parliament: 15 sitting days from the day the declaration is tabled.

The PJCIS Chair, Mr Andrew Hastie MP, said that "It is an important part of the Committee's scrutiny function to inquire into declarations under section 119.3 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995*."

The Committee invites written submissions to the inquiry to be received no later than **6 April 2018**. Information on how to make a submission is available on the Committee's [website](#).

Further information about the inquiry can be accessed via the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/pjcis>.

Media enquiries: Chair, Mr Andrew Hastie MP (Canning, WA) on 08 9534 8044 (Electorate Office) or 02 6277 4223 (Parliament House)

For background: Committee Secretariat on 02 6277 2360 or email pjcis@aph.gov.au