



Apolline Kohen  
Acting Secretary  
Standing Committee on Community Affairs  
Legislation Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Kohen,

Greetings from Scouts Australia! We thank you for the invitation to offer comments on the National Redress Scheme Amendment (Technical) Bill.

Overall, Scouts Australia is supportive of the proposed changes.

Our specific responses to the various Parts are:

**The Change to Part 1** relates to participating groups whereby groups of like institutions (such as State-run bodies) are treated as a group. The grouping approach could apply to Scouts but presumably only with agreement of all institutions that would form that group.

**Changes to Part 2** deal with funder of last resort and appears to provide the option for States/Territories to be funders of last resort not solely the federal government. Scouts Australia supports this change.

**Part 3** deals with the engagement of Independent Decision Makers (IDM) and broadly appears to be transferring some authority from the Minister to the Operator (eg: amendment to 185(2) removes the requirement for the Minister to consult with State and Territory counterparts prior to appointing an IDM).

Scouts Australia has made a detailed Submission to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Independent Review of the National Redress Scheme. Inter alia, we have expressed various concerns with the decisions made by the IDMs. Our preference therefore is that any changes relating to IDMs await the outcomes of that Independent Review.

Chief Commissioner  
Neville Tomkins OAM, JP, FAIM,  
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Scout Movement

The insertion of **Division 4A** protected names and symbols appears to us to be a soft approach to preventing firms (presumably law firms) from using the National Redress Scheme and variations in their business names or in marketing. Scouts Australia is fully supportive of this change.

We again thank the Committee for the invitation to offer comments on the Bill.

Please feel most welcome to contact me on 0412 576 165 if you would like me to clarify any of the above statements.

With best wishes,

Neville Tomkins OAM, JP  
National Co-ordinator (Redress)  
Scouts Australia.

22 October 2020