

Subject: Proposal to replace the parliamentary prayer with an invitation to prayer or reflection

Dear Sir / Madam,

I write to strongly support this proposal.

Current prayers endorse and promote a particular religion and may in fact breach the Constitution's requirement of separation of church and state in regards to not "imposing any religious observance".

Current prayers also exclude and devalue those who do not belong to that religion.

Sectarian prayers are inconsistent with the religious diversity of the Australian community that MPs are elected to represent.

Sincerely

Frances Coombe