



Public hearing on Counter-Terrorism Bill

Parliament's Intelligence and Security committee will hold a public hearing in Canberra on Monday for its inquiry into the Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2015.

The Bill is the sixth piece of national security legislation to be examined by the Committee during the current Parliament and proposes a range of amendments to existing counter-terrorism legislation, primarily relating to control orders. These include:

- allowing a control order to be imposed on persons 14 years and older, with additional safeguards;
- new powers for police to monitor compliance by individuals with control orders;
- providing greater protection to sensitive information in control order proceedings;
- amending the test for obtaining a preventative detention order; and
- creating a new criminal offence of 'advocating genocide'.

Details of the hearings are as follows:

Monday, 14 December 2015 – 9.15am to 3.15pm
Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra

Program:

9.15am	Law Council of Australia
10.00am	Australian Human Rights Commission
11.00am	Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law
11.40am	Muslim Legal Network (NSW)
12.15pm	Australia Defence Association
1.45pm	Attorney-General's Department and Australian Federal Police

The hearing will be broadcast live at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/live>

The Chair of the Committee, Mr Dan Tehan MP, said "The Committee's review of proposed updates to Australia's counter-terrorism legislation is timely in light of recent events and ongoing threats."

"The Committee again welcomes the opportunity to contribute to ensuring Australia's national security laws adequately protect the community while also safeguarding individual freedoms and upholding accountability standards."

The Committee has been asked to report by 15 February 2016.

Further information about the inquiry 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 pjcis@aph.gov.au.