



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs

Inquiry: Northern Territory statehood seminar

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 2 February 2007

Chairman: Peter Slipper MP

Canberra public hearing on Northern Territory statehood

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs will hold a public hearing in Canberra on 6 February 2007 in relation to Northern Territory statehood.

The hearing follows a successful three-day seminar held by the Committee in Alice Springs and Darwin in November 2006 which focused on the federal implications of statehood and on recent developments.

“The Committee was impressed by the evidence it received at the November seminar”, said Committee Chairman Peter Slipper MP. “One of the clear messages that came out of the seminar was that people wanted to know more about the Commonwealth’s position on statehood”, Mr Slipper said.

“The Committee has decided therefore to hear from relevant Commonwealth Government departments at this important public forum”.

The hearing will be held on **Tuesday, 6 February 2007** at Parliament House, Canberra in **Committee room 2R2** from 5:00pm – 6:00pm.

Representatives from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Attorney-General’s Department, and the Department of Transport and Regional Services will appear at the hearing.

For media interview:

Please contact the Committee Chairman, Peter Slipper MP on (07) 5443 3555 (electorate office) or on (02) 6277 4975 (Canberra office).

Or Mr Slipper’s media adviser, Richard Bruinsma, on 0417 486 673.

For further information, including the terms of reference, a program, an information paper, and copies of submissions, please visit the inquiry website at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/laca/ntstatehood/index.htm> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 2358.