



Crimes at sea report to be tabled on Monday

Troubled Waters – inquiry into the arrangements surrounding crimes committed at sea.

On Monday 4 June 2013, the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs will table its report titled *Troubled Waters - inquiry into the arrangements surrounding crimes committed at sea*.

The inquiry was commenced in September 2012, and has focussed on the arrangements that are in place when crimes against the person are committed on cruise ships.

Specifically, the terms of reference directed the Committee to:

- Examine the effectiveness of current arrangements for the investigation and prosecution of alleged offences under *the Crimes at Sea Act 2000* and the *Intergovernmental Agreement – Crimes at Sea 16 November 2000*;
- Examine the cross jurisdictional issues that face the States, Territories and the Commonwealth, including the overlap of various coronial jurisdictions;
- Consider whether improvements could be made in relation to the reporting, investigation and prosecution of alleged crimes committed at sea; and
- Examine support available to victims of crime committed at sea.

The report makes a number of recommendations that are aimed at improving both crime prevention as well as the response of cruise ship operators when crimes occur at sea.

Committee Chair, Graham Perrett MP, said ‘Tragic events remind us that accidents and crimes can happen in the midst of holidays. The Committee has found that both Government and Industry can do more to protect Australians on cruises, to ensure that tragedies and mistakes do not occur again.’

Following tabling, the report will be available on the Committee’s website, at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/spla>.

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Graham Perrett MP, on (07) 3344 2622 or 0434058200, .
For advice on timing of tabling, please contact the **Secretariat of the Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs**:

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