

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

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Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Bill 2006

The Senate, on the recommendation of the Selection of Bills Committee, has referred the above Bill to the Committee for inquiry and report by 1 August 2006.

The Minister's second reading speech relating to the Bill is attached for your information. The Bill, Explanatory Memoranda and other information relating to the inquiry may be accessed website via the link to 'legislation and documentation relating to the Bills'

In referring the Bill to the Committee the following issues for consideration were given:

- to seek community and expert opinion on provisions that will significantly impact on the rights
 of traditional owners and the functions of Land Councils;
- to examine the operation of the provisions of the Bill and their potential consequences.

The Committee invites written submissions addressing the issues which are of relevance to your organisation. Submissions relating to the Bill should be lodged by Wednesday, 12 July 2006. The Committee prefers to receive submissions electronically as an attached document – email: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au – otherwise by fax (number 02 6277 5829).

The Committee has scheduled a public hearing in Darwin for 21 July 2006.