



The Rev. The Hon. Fred Nile MLC ED., L.Th.,



Member of the Legislative Council
Deputy Chair, Privileges Committee
Parliamentary Leader, Christian Democratic Party
Parliament House, Macquarie Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 9230 2478 Facsimile: (02) 9230 2098
Email: f.nile@parliament.nsw.gov.au

U R G E N T

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS IN NSW

31 July 2020

Dear Supporter and Friend,

As you may be aware, the [Anti-Discrimination Amendment \(Religious Freedoms and Equality\) Bill 2020](#), which is co-sponsored by me as leader of the Christian Democratic Party in the NSW Legislative Council, is presently before a Parliamentary Committee.

This means that the Bill is being reviewed by a select group of parliamentarians who will decide on how it will be dealt with. This is a **crucial time for the public to make itself heard** by making a submission to the Committee.

It is your right to voice your view

It is your right to put a submission before the Committee

Accordingly, I strongly encourage you to put a submission to the Committee before the closing date of **21 August 2020**. The Committee provides the following instructions on how to make a submission:

- Individuals are invited to submit their comments on the bill at [this link](#). This is a new way for individuals to participate in inquiries and it means we will no longer accept pro-forma submissions.
- If you or your organisation has specialist knowledge, expertise or experience in the field and you would like to make a more detailed submission, please contact the secretariat by email on ReligiousFreedomBill@parliament.nsw.gov.au.
- In calling for submissions, stakeholders are to be mindful of paragraph 3 of the Terms of Reference, which is reproduced below.

Terms of Reference

3. That the Committee, in undertaking (2), have to regard to:
 - a) Existing rights and legal protections contained in the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW) and other relevant NSW and Commonwealth legislation;
 - b) The recommendations relevant to NSW from the Expert Panel Report: Religious Freedom Review (2018);
 - c) The interaction between Commonwealth and NSW anti-discrimination laws and the desirability of consistency between those laws, including consideration of
 - i. The draft Religious Discrimination Bill 2019 (Cth) which has been released for public consultation, and
 - ii. The Australian Law Reform Commission's reference into the Framework of Religious Exemptions in Anti-discrimination Legislation.

A copy of the Bill itself is attached. More information about the Committee and its Terms of Reference can be found on [this link](#).

Any questions or queries concerning the Committee and its processes should be directed to the email address noted above.

**Media inquiries:
Rev. Hon. Fred Nile MLC
(02) 9230 2478**