

1 December 2021

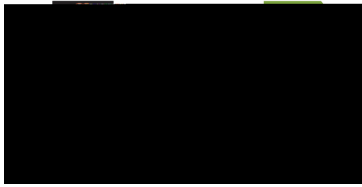
Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash
Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations
PO Box 1966
West Perth WA

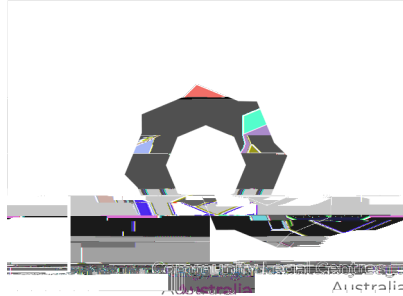
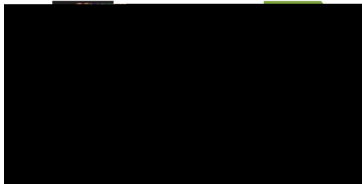
By email: senator.cash@aph.gov.au

Dear Attorney-General,

Religious Discrimination Bill

We are writing to express our opposition to the latest version of the Religious Discrimination Bill, which was introduced to Parliament on 25 November 2021. The Bill maintains some of the worst features of the drafts, while also introducing new issues.





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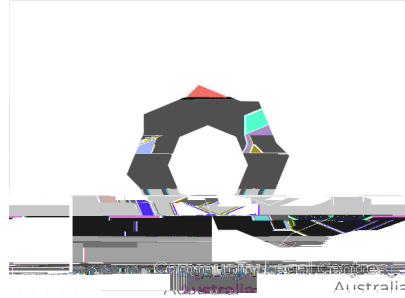
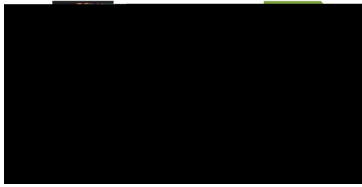
The Hon Mark Dreyfus QC, MP
Shadow Attorney-General
566 Main Street
Mordialloc VIC 3195

By email: mark.dreyfus.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Dreyfus,

Religious Discrimination Bill

We are writing to express our opposition to the latest version of the Religious Discrimination Bill, which was introduced to Parliament on 25 November 2021. The Bill maintains some of the worst



barest of justifications. This is not a fanciful concern when we consider, for example, the number of people who have recently argued that taking the COVID-19 vaccine is against their religion despite the fact that no major world religion endorses this view.

The Bill continues to interfere with vital social services, in particular, by preventing qualifying bodies from maintaining professional standards with respect to discrimination. Under the Bill, a qualifying body that attempts to maintain professional standards may itself be accused of religious discrimination. For example, qualifying bodies may be accused of religious discrimination if they take action against:

- x A doctor who posts on social media that COVID-19 vaccinations are poison;
- x A nurse who letterboxes flyers saying that HIV/AIDS is punishment for a lifestyle; or
- x A psychologist who tells a client that they should seek help from a religious leader.

This could cost lives by misleading people about matters of health (e.g. (d3