



Joint Select Committee on the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020

Preliminary report on the online questionnaire

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As part of the inquiry into the *Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020*, the Committee resolved to use an online questionnaire to encourage public participation in the inquiry in an efficient and accessible manner. The questionnaire was the primary mechanism for members of the public to share their views on the bill with the Committee.
- 1.2 Respondents to the questionnaire were members of the public that self-selected to participate; as a result the respondents to this questionnaire should not be taken to be a representative sample of the state's population. It should be noted some respondents may reside in other jurisdictions.
- 1.3 The online questionnaire was open from 3 July 2020 to 21 August 2020. The questionnaire received 19,502 individual responses. This report provides a preliminary summary of the responses of participants and provides a sample of views on the bill. This data may be used in the Committee's report.

2. Questions asked

- 2.1 The questionnaire first asked for respondents' contact details, followed by two main questions. These were:
- What is your position on the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020? Support, Support with amendments, Neutral/Undecided, Oppose.
 - In relation to the previous question, please explain your position on the bill (max 750 words)

3. Responses to the question on respondents' position on the bill

- 3.1 There were 19,403 responses to the question 'What is your position on the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020'.

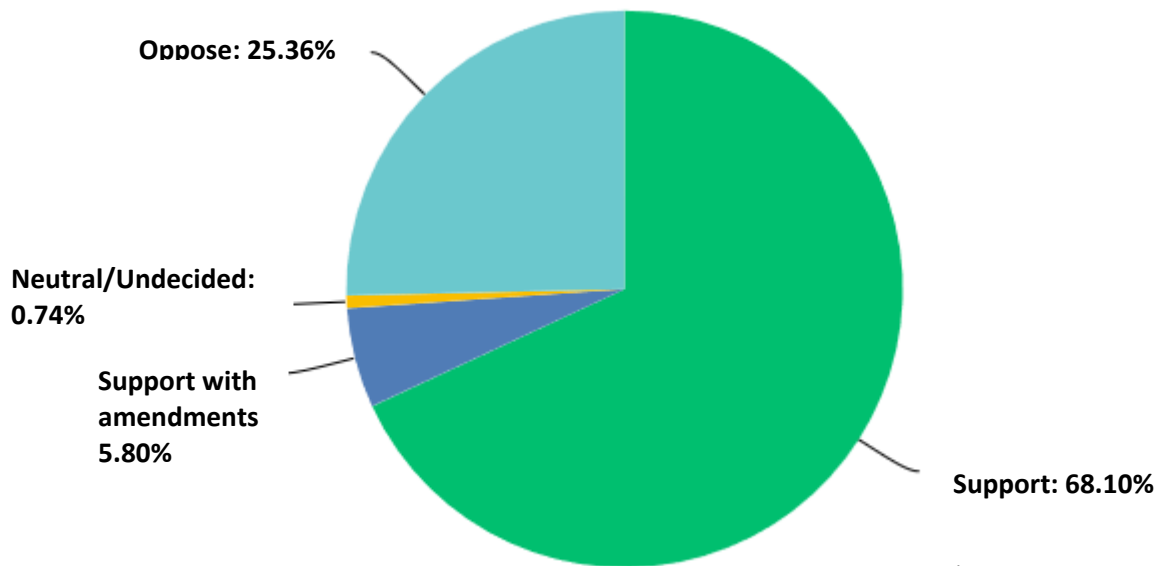


Figure 1

3.2 **68.10** percent of respondents supported the bill. **5.80** percent of respondents supported the bill with amendments, **0.74** percent were neutral/undecided, and **25.36** percent opposed the bill.

4. Responses to the opportunity for respondents to explain their position on the bill

4.1 16,916 respondents provided comments regarding their position on the bill. The Committee will publish a further report including a summary of these comments at a later date.