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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Report tabled on the Equality Legislation Amendment (LGBTIQA+) Bill 2023**

The Committee on Community Services has completed its inquiry into the Equality Legislation Amendment (LGBTIQA+) Bill 2023 and tabled its report.

The Committee was tasked with inquiring into the provisions of the Bill. It also looked at whether the Bill raises any operational issues for government agencies, and additional ways to improve the safety and wellbeing of the LGBTIQA+ community.

Committee Chair, Mr Clayton Barr MP, said that the Committee heard from a diverse range of stakeholders expressing differing perspectives on the amendments proposed by the Bill.

"The Bill seeks to amend 20 different pieces of legislation to support improved equality and protections for LGBTIQA+ people and sex workers. We heard from stakeholders with conflicting views on the Bill, with many being strongly supportive of the Bill and many others being strongly opposed to the proposed changes."

The Committee received 66 submissions from LGBTIQA+ advocacy groups, legal experts, churches, think tanks, peak bodies, interest groups, and the NSW Government. Committee members also heard from 44 witnesses during two public hearings, and it sought individuals' views on the Bill via an online survey.

"It was important that the Committee heard from a broad range of stakeholders so that it could better understand how the Bill would operate in practice. The Committee has recommended that the Bill proceed to be considered by the Parliament and that the views of stakeholders as outlined in this report be considered as part of the deliberations," said Mr Barr.

"On behalf of the Committee, I thank everyone who made a submission, appeared as a witness at one of our public hearings, or took the time to complete the survey. We hope that the report will assist the Parliament's consideration of the Bill."

The report can be found on the inquiry [webpage](#).

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