

**Submission
No 11**

OPERATION OF THE LEGISLATION REVIEW ACT 1987

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The Chair
Legislation Review Committee
Parliament House Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

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By email: Legislation.Review@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Inquiry into the operation of the Legislation Review Act 1987 (NSW)

Dear Chair

I write in response to a call for submissions on the above Inquiry.

Following a review of submissions received to date I would like to endorse the submission developed by the New South Wales Parliamentary Friends of Reconciliation (PFR).

The submission recognises that “there is no systemic measure in the NSW Parliament to deliver reconciliation with Aboriginal Australians”.

While the NSW Parliament has passed landmark legislation for Aboriginal such as the *NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*, many pieces of legislation have had unintended and detrimental effects on Aboriginal people, organisations and communities.

In light of this, I therefore support the recommendation to confer upon the Legislation Review Committee the power to report on the impact of any legislation or regulation upon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. I would note that this process is consistent with the Aboriginal Health Impact Statement launched by NSW Health in September last year.

I also endorse the PFR’s second recommendation that the Legislation Review Committee have the power to review legislation and regulation in regard to its compliance with Australia’s Treaty obligations. I note that the Australian Human Rights Commission’s submission seeks the power for the Committee to scrutinise issues before it for compatibility with Australia’s human rights obligations, which is also supported. In doing so, I would draw specific attention to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which provides a comprehensive framework for the protection of the rights of Indigenous peoples.


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