

**Submission
No 1**

**REVIEW OF ASPECTS OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST
CORRUPTION ACT 1988**

Name: Mr Grant Mistler

Date Received: 4 July 2022

Grant Mistler

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4 July 2022

Dear Committee on the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act

RE: Review of Aspects of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988

Thank you very much for undertaking a much needed review of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) Act 1988 (the Act). I wish to highlight three areas for your consideration.

The first area for consideration is what lessons may be learned from the original ICAC: the ICAC that was developed in Hong Kong in 1974. Members of the current Hong Kong ICAC may well be able to provide useful external and independent insights for NSW. The Hong Kong ICAC is divided into three Departments, and a representative from the Operations Department, the Corruption Prevention Department and the Community Relations Department should be included in a consultative manner.

The second is the ICAC funding structure. While the NSW population has grown, and the CPI has increased, ICAC funding has not kept pace with either over the last decade. Hong Kong ICAC funding was around AUD \$135 million in 2010,¹ whereas NSW ICAC funding is around \$30 million in 2022.

It must be noted former Premier of NSW Gladys Berejiklian oversighted ICAC funding from 2017. She later sat before ICAC, along with her secret sexual partner and work colleague Daryl Maguire, as well as her former Deputy Premier of NSW John Barilaro. It also appears that Deputy Premier may have allegedly created a \$500,000 job for himself, before resigning from the NSW Parliament, to then take that \$500,000 job away from another person. There are many conflicts of interest at play here, for Ms Berejiklian, Mr Barilaro and Mr Maguire, as they directly or indirectly influenced ICAC funding.

The final area for consideration, are the recent 18 recommendations from the 19 April 2022 "Report of the Inquiry into the Education and Prevention Functions of Victoria's Integrity Agencies".² They began their public inquiry in July 2020. Would it be at all possible to glean from their insights?

Thank you for focusing on this Act, and for seeking to strengthen Australia's first and premier state.

Yours faithfully

Grant Mistler

¹ Ian Scott. Chapter 21: The Hong Kong ICACs Approach to Corruption Control. Edward Elgar Publishing; 2011. doi:10.4337/9781849805032.00028

² <https://apo.org.au/sites/default/files/resource-files/2022-04/apo-nid317429.pdf>