



INQUIRY INTO THE ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT TO SERVE ON JURIES

TERMS OF REFERENCE

That the Standing Committee on Law and Justice inquire into and report on the eligibility of Members of Parliament who do not hold Ministerial portfolios to serve on juries, and in particular:

1. Whether there exists an immunity (or privilege) that attaches at common law to Members of Parliament that prevents them being compelled to attend other courts in response to a summons for jury service
2. The extent of any such immunity (or privilege), in particular whether the rights that arise apply in periods when Parliament is not sitting
3. The appropriateness of any such immunity (or privilege)
4. Whether any such immunity should be abolished, altered or more precisely defined
5. Whether the existing provisions in the *Jury Act 1977* that make Members of Parliament ineligible for jury service are necessary in light of any such immunity/privilege and, if so, whether they are appropriate
6. Whether the existing provisions in the *Jury Act 1977* that make Members of Parliament ineligible for jury service should be repealed or amended.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Hon Christine Robertson MLC (<i>Chair</i>)	Australian Labor Party
The Hon David Clarke MLC (<i>Deputy Chair</i>)	Liberal Party
The Hon John Ajaka MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Lynda Voltz MLC	Australian Labor Party
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC	The Greens