



Terms of Reference

Inquiry into comments made by Cardinal George Pell

That the Privileges Committee inquire into and report on:

- (a) public comments made by the Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, Cardinal George Pell, regarding possible ‘consequences’ for Members in supporting the Human Cloning and Other Prohibited Practices Amendment Bill 2007, and in particular:
 - (i) the written media statement issued by Cardinal Pell on 4 June 2007¹,
 - (ii) reports in the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Daily Telegraph* on 6 June regarding the Archbishop’s comments at a news conference held the previous day²;
- (b) whether the comments by Cardinal Pell constitute a contempt of parliament; and
- (c) what action, if any, should be taken in relation to this matter.

¹ Cardinal George Pell, ‘No Catholic could in good conscience vote for Cloning Bill – NSW Bishops’, 4 June 2007

² See ‘Catholic MPs defy Pell on cell vote’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 June 2007, p1. See also ‘Church warning for stem cell vote’, *Daily Telegraph*, 6 June 2007, p 16