



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL ISSUES

MEDIA RELEASE

Inquiry into the provisions of the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 hearings underway

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

14 August 2019

The Legislative Council Social Issues Committee inquiry into the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 has concluded day one of hearings. The committee heard evidence from 20 witnesses representing organisations including religious leaders and the legal profession. A second hearing will be held on Thursday 15 August with 22 witnesses scheduled to appear during the day.

The inquiry has received approximately 13,000 submissions by web portal and email. Recognising that the web portal was overloaded from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm last night, Tuesday 13 August 2019, the committee has resolved to reopen submissions until midnight, Thursday 15 August. Members of the community who were unable to lodge their submission or would like to make a **new** submission are encouraged to do so by emailing the committee on socialissues@parliament.nsw.gov.au. Parties that have already made a submission **do not** need to resubmit their submission.

Commenting on the first day of the inquiry the Chair, the Hon Shayne Mallard MLC said: "The first day of this emotionally charged inquiry has been conducted with great civility and respect on all sides of the debate. I commend the witnesses, public and my parliamentary colleagues for demonstrating how Australians can conduct a civil debate in these circumstances."

-ENDS-

For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon Shayne Mallard MLC, on 9230 2434.