LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 7 – PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

Have your say on the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (Culture Is Identity) Bill 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 5 SEPTEMBER 2022

Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment is currently doing an inquiry into the private members' bill Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (Culture is Identity) Bill 2022.

The Chair of the committee, Ms Sue Higginson MLC, explained "The laws in the bill were created by Reverend the Hon Fred Nile who is an independent, non-government member of the Upper House of the NSW Parliament. The bill is also co-sponsored by a number of members from Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council. The bill is completely separate from the cultural heritage reforms that the NSW Government and Aboriginal Affairs NSW are working on".

"I encourage members of the community to have their say on the bill. The committee wants to hear your views on the changes to Aboriginal cultural heritage laws that are proposed in Reverend Nile's bill", Ms Higginson added.

You can tell us what you think of the bill via the <u>online questionnaire</u> on our website. This only takes about 5 minutes. The closing date for online questionnaire is **30 September 2022**. If you would like to give the committee a more detailed explanation of your views, you can make a submission to the inquiry on our <u>website</u>. The closing date for submissions is **15 September 2022**.

A short video with information about the inquiry, the bill and how to engage in the inquiry process is on the committee's <u>webpage</u> and on the NSW Parliament's <u>YouTube channel</u>.

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, Ms Sue Higginson MLC, on 9230 2273