24 APR 2013

Answer to Question on Notice

LAW & JUSTICE

Regarding the Question on Notice regarding the civil penalty regime, the ALS supports such a regime in relation to matters falling under section 20 C only. We think it is a good option to relieve the burden upon vulnerable complainants.

Answer to Supplementary Question

Regarding the Supplementary Question of a proposed new Section 20 D, the ALS supports the proposed new section as being in line with our view that a reasonableness test needs to be added to the current section. It also does not expand the types of serious racial vilification that ought to be the subject of a criminal regime beyond the worst case, again in line with our approach to this issue.

John McKenzie Chief Legal Officer Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) Ltd.