

Respect at Work and Other Matters Amendment Bill 2024

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Committee Secretary
Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Submitted via the committee's online submission portal

Re: Respect at Work and Other Matters Amendment Bill 2024

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Respect at Work and Other Matters Amendment Bill 2024 (the Bill).

As you would be aware, as Public Advocate I undertake systemic advocacy to promote and protect the rights and interests of Queensland adults with impaired decision-making ability.¹

I note that this Bill represents the first stage of reforms to the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991*. There has been extensive consultation regarding reforms to the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991* including, from earlier this year, a draft Anti-Discrimination Bill 2024 that was proposed to replace the current Act.

I further note that the Respect at Work and Other Matters Amendment Bill 2024 implements some of the changes proposed during the consultation process mentioned above. As can be seen in my support of the development of the draft Anti-Discrimination Bill 2024, I support the updating of anti-discrimination laws to reflect the changing needs of society, including for people with impaired decision-making ability.

I look forward to the further stages of reforms to the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991* that implement the changes seen in the draft Anti-Discrimination Bill 2024.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the Respect at Work and Other Matters Amendment Bill 2024.

Should you wish to discuss any of the matters I have raised in this submission further, please do not hesitate to contact my office via email public.advocate@justice.qld.gov.au or phone 07 3738 9513.

Yours sincerely



John Chesterman (Dr)
Public Advocate

¹ *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld) s 209.*