

26 November 2021

Committee Secretary
Community Support and Services Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

By email: CSSC@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Secretary

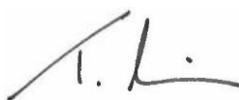
Re: *Criminal Law (Raising the Age of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2021*

Thank you, on behalf of the Bar Association of Queensland ('the Association'), for the invitation to make a submission in relation to the *Criminal Law (Raising the Age of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2021* ('the Bill'). This response has been prepared by the Criminal Law Committee of the Association.

The Association wishes to express its support for the introduction of the Bill. The Association notes the Bill, once passed, will have the immediate effect of raising the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 14 and releasing any child under the age of 14 from detention or custody. The Association also notes the retroactive application of the Bill, expunging the record of any convictions for any offence committed by a person who was, at the time of the offence, under the age of 14 and the destruction of any evidence gathered in respect of that conviction. In the Association's view, these amendments are entirely appropriate and should be introduced.

The Association would be pleased to provide further feedback, or answer any queries you may have on this matter.

Yours faithfully



Tom Sullivan QC
President



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