

Community Support and Services Committee

From: Anne-Maree Brady [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 29 November 2021 10:54 PM
To: Maiwar Electorate Office
Cc: Community Support and Services Committee; Maiwar Electorate Office
Subject: Criminal Law (Raising the Age of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2021

Dear Michael Berkman MP,

To the Community Support and Services Committee, CC my local MP:

I am writing to make a submission on the Criminal Law (Raising the Age of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2021. I strongly support bringing Queensland's law in line with international expectations by raising the age of criminal responsibility.

I can understand why communities desperate for solutions might want to lock kids up when they don't see any alternative way to keep them off the streets, but putting kids in detention doesn't rehabilitate them, and that means that it doesn't keep the community safe long-term. What DOES keep the community safe long-term is making sure we have proper funding for healthcare, social services and community activities.

The children in question are also a part of our community, and we have an obligation to keep them safe. Australia was revolted by what they saw of Don Dale and there have been other examples of harsh treatment in youth detention centres since. I'm glad the issue finally seems to be properly on the radar for Queensland's government, because we've known for a while how necessary this action is.

Yours sincerely,
Anne-Maree Brady
[REDACTED]