

Child Safe Organisations Bill 2024

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Attention: Community Support and Services Committee
Via email: cssc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Child Safe Organisations Bill 2024

The Alannah & Madeline Foundation (the Foundation) would like to congratulate the Queensland Government on the introduction of the Child Safe Organisations Bill 2024 and fully supports the outlined policy objectives that will activate the recommendations made by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

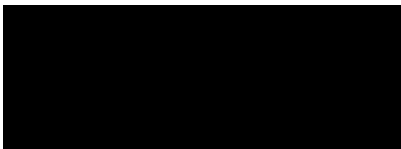
In the Foundation's submission to the Queensland Government in September 2023, we called for a legislated scheme mandating compliance with child safe standards as the best way forward, with leadership and regulatory powers vested in an independent, trusted, expert, publicly funded body, whose role should include a strong emphasis on awareness-raising and organisational capacity-building.

Therefore, we are thrilled to see the Bill commit to establishing:

- a mandatory compliance with 10 Child Safe Standards, based on the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations (National Principles), and a Universal Principle for cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and;
- a Reportable Conduct Scheme for the oversight of reporting and investigations into allegations of child abuse by organisations within scope; and providing that the Commission is the independent oversight body responsible for administration of Child Safe Standards and a Reportable Conduct Scheme.

Thank-you for the opportunity to provide a submission, and again we would like to commend the Queensland Government on this significant step towards improving the safety and wellbeing of children in Queensland organisations and ensure children who are at risk of experiencing abuse or who have experienced abuse in institutional settings are supported early, in a trauma-informed, appropriate way.

Kind regards,



Ariana Kurzeme
Director, Policy & Prevention

