

## **Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) Amendment Bill 2023**

**Submission No:** 5  
**Submitted by:** Australian Medical Association Queensland Limited  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**See attached:**

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**From:** Erin O'Donnell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 21 April 2023 11:47 AM  
**To:** Legal Affairs and Safety Committee  
**Cc:** Brett Dale; Amanda Sanderson  
**Subject:** RE: Call for submissions - Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) Amendment Bill 2023

To the Committee Secretary,

Thank you for the invitation to provide feedback on the LASC's inquiry into the *Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) Amendment Bill 2023*.

Queensland doctors treat patients from minority communities who are suffering trauma, injury and devastating mental health illnesses. Far too often, these impacts are due to abhorrent racist and discriminatory attitudes and actions of certain individuals in the community.

AMA Queensland supports measures that strive to communicate to perpetrators of serious vilification and hate crimes that such behaviour is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Whilst elevating such acts to a criminal offence will send a strong message to these individuals, it must be balanced with requisite education campaigns. Entrenched attitudes cannot be changed through criminal sanctions alone and the Queensland Government must work to improve community views for the benefit of all.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

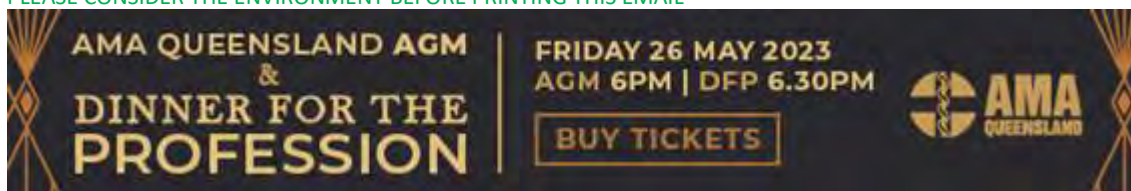
Kind regards,

Erin

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