

Monitoring of Places of Detention (Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture) Bill 2022

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Submitted by:	Queensland Family and Child Commission
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Committee Secretary
Legal Affairs and Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Committee Secretary

Thank you for providing the Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) with the opportunity to make a submission to the Monitoring of Places of Detention (Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture) Bill 2022 (the Bill).

The QFCC is pleased to see the introduction of this Bill to facilitate the ability for the United Nations Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT) to visit places of detention in Queensland. This Bill is important to make sure authorities can visit places where people, including children and young people, are detained. The QFCC welcomes clarification in section 4 of the Bill that these places include: youth detention centres; watch houses; holding cells; transport vehicles; authorised mental health services; and forensic disability services.

Increasing the transparency and accountability of our detention systems is a necessary reform that should enhance community understanding and confidence in the statutory youth justice system whilst providing further safeguards for the rights of children and young people.

Yours sincerely



Luke Twyford
Principal Commissioner
Queensland Family and Child Commission
9 January 2023

