



Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

Our ref: 572307/6; 5554621

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23 APR 2021

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr ~~Laurie~~ *Neil*

I refer to e-Petition 3472-21 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 24 March 2021 on recognising LGBT+ people within the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2003* (BDMR Act).

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to building safe, caring and connected communities. This means implementing policies that foster more inclusive communities.

I can inform the petitioners, implementing legislative reforms to the BDMR Act is a top priority for the Palaszczuk Government. The Department of Justice and Attorney-General is currently working hard to bring a Bill before the House this year, to address many of the issues raised, and other important matters, in the petition.

With regards to one specific matter raised in the petition, I note it requests that the legislative limit of one name change per year be increased or that exceptions be put in place for name changes related to gender affirmation. I take this opportunity to clarify that a change of name resulting from a person getting married or divorced is currently recognised by the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages without a person undertaking a formal change of name process under the BDMR Act. As a result, such a change does not impact a person's ability to seek a change of name for another reason within a particular 12-month period.

I thank the petitioners for bringing their concerns to the attention of the House and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely


Shannon Fentiman MP

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence
Member for Waterford