



Honourable Deb Frecklington MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
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Our ref: 572305/11, 7633776

Your ref: 4381-26

12 MAR 2026

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to e-Petition 4381-26 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 10 February 2026 titled Antisemitism Bill.

Comprehensive antisemitism legislation

The petitioners call for new comprehensive antisemitism legislation, including serious penalties and consequences for antisemitic acts.

In response to the abhorrent antisemitic terrorist attack at Bondi Beach, the Crisafulli Government is taking steps to confront the core issue of antisemitism and take decisive action against those who seek to spread hate and violence in our community.

The petitioners will be pleased to know that, on 11 March 2026, the *Fighting Antisemitism and Keeping Guns out of the Hands of Terrorists and Criminals Amendment Act 2026* (the Act) received royal assent.

The Act includes amendments focusing on strong penalties and targeted measures addressing terrorist symbols, particular hateful expressions and protections for faith communities, as well as keeping guns out of the hands of terrorists and criminals.

Stricter gun laws

The petitioners request stricter gun laws prohibiting ownership or use of guns in city or residential areas, excluding shooting ranges who must keep guns secured safely on site.

The *Weapons Act 1990* (Weapons Act) establishes strict and comprehensive legal requirements for the safe and lawful use of firearms in Queensland. The Weapons Act

ensures firearms are used responsibly for legitimate purposes while prioritising community safety; and includes strict provisions for licensing, storage, and usage, aimed at promoting safe firearm practices and reducing the risk of misuse.

The Act strengthens existing firearms legislation by increasing penalties for offences involving the misuse of firearms and weapons, giving more powers to police to assess the suitability of applicants for weapons licences, and providing additional mechanisms to prohibit firearms from falling into the wrong hands of individuals who pose a threat to community safety. Disappointingly the Queensland Labor Party voted against these tough gun laws.

The Crisafulli Government has maintained robust firearm regulation to safeguard the community while balancing the rights of lawful firearm owners.

Compulsory antisemitism education

The petitioners request increasing education of antisemitism in school curriculums making it compulsory in early education, recognising the importance of fostering understanding, tolerance and respect within our school communities.

I am advised the Australian Curriculum, developed by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) and implemented in Queensland since 2010, includes content on the Holocaust, antisemitism, and Australian values from Prep to Year 10. Through the curriculum's focus on Intercultural Understanding, students learn to challenge prejudice, intolerance, and racism. Additionally, all state schools are required to deliver Respectful Relationships Education, from Prep to Year 12, with learning focused on equipping students with the skills to build a culture of acceptance and challenge prejudice and intolerance.

The Department of Education (DoE) supports schools with resources on antisemitism, cultural diversity, and social cohesion. DoE is also part of the Prime Minister's Antisemitism Education Taskforce, which is working to strengthen education about antisemitism nationwide. The Taskforce is seeking agreement for ACARA to review the curriculum to further enhance learning about antisemitism and Jewish history and culture.

Queensland is contributing to national efforts, including supporting the new online social cohesion hub by Education Services Australia which will provide free, high-quality resources and guidance to help schools strengthen social cohesion and combat antisemitism.

I am advised DoE is also exploring how the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation project, 'Addressing antisemitism through education,' implemented in New South Wales, could be adapted for Queensland schools.

Antisemitism on university campuses

The petitioners request a “report card” on universities’ handling of antisemitism on campus.

On 10 July 2025, Ms Jillian Segel AO, Australia’s Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism (Special Envoy), delivered her *Plan to Combat Antisemitism*.

I am advised as part of this plan, the Special Envoy is to develop and launch a university report card, assessing each university’s implementation of effective practices and standards to combat antisemitism, including complaints systems and best practice policies. The report card will consider whether the campus/online environment is conducive to Jewish students and staff participating actively and equally in university life.

The Australian Government has adopted the *Plan to Combat Antisemitism* and is working through implementation of the 13 recommendations in consultation with the Jewish Australian community.

I recommend the petitioners approach the Special Envoy and the Australian Government directly for an update on the progress of this work.

Antisemitic views on social media

The petitioners call for use of “trusted voices to publicly refute antisemitic views” on social media and a plan to “monitor media organisations to avoid accepting false or distorted narratives” by way of serious fines to the administrators of the site.

In the *Plan to Combat Antisemitism*, the Special Envoy identifies manipulated narratives in legacy media and social media as a driver of rising levels of antisemitism in Australia since the deadly terrorist attacks in Israel on 7 October 2023.

I am advised, under this plan, the Special Envoy has undertaken to:

- establish a project to support trusted voices to publicly refute antisemitic views, particularly via social media platforms, and
- monitor media organisations to encourage accurate, fair and responsible reporting and assist them to meet their editorial standards and commitment to impartiality and balance and to avoid accepting false or distorted narratives.

As noted above, the Australian Government has adopted this plan and is working through implementation of its recommendations.

As this falls under the ministerial responsibilities of the Honourable Anika Wells MP, Minister for Communications and Sport, I advise the petitioners may wish to write to Minister Wells about this matter.

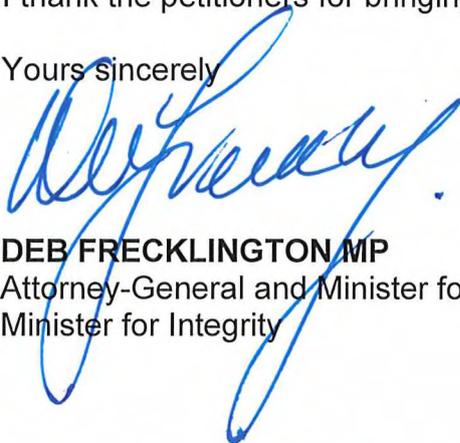
Tougher screening of visa applicants

The petitioners call for tougher screening of visa applicants for antisemitic views, with a focus on addressing visa refusals or cancellations.

As this matter falls under the ministerial responsibilities of the Honourable Tony Burke MP, Minister for Home Affairs, Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Minister for Cyber Security and Minister for the Arts, I advise the petitioners may wish to write to Minister Burke about this matter.

I thank the petitioners for bringing their concerns to the attention of the House.

Yours sincerely



DEB FRECKLINGTON MP

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