

20 July 2020

The Honourable G. Berejiklian  
Premier of New South Wales  
52 Martin Place  
Sydney, 2000

## **NSW MODERN SLAVERY ACT 2018 SHOULD COME INTO FORCE**

Dear Premier Berejiklian,

We, the under-signed 76 organisations, representatives and 40 individuals, urge you as leader of the Government of NSW to expedite the passage of this Act so that it can be brought into force on 1 January 2021, as recommended by the Inquiry Report submitted by the Standing Committee on Social Issues on 25 March 2020.

Bringing the Act into effect on 1 January 2021 represents an avoidable delay of two and a half years since the original Act was passed and assented. In that time, hundreds of thousands if not millions of people, both here in Australia and internationally, will have been deceived into a life of slavery. It is imperative that the Act is not delayed any longer.

The Standing Committee recognises that the NSW Modern Slavery Act is an important addition to the Commonwealth Act. This legislation positions NSW as a world leader in addressing modern slavery and in the wake of COVID-19 should inform your Government's job creation initiatives to create better working conditions and prevent the scourge of modern slavery here and overseas. The Inquiry's recommendations have received broad support, and there appears to be no reason why the legislative amendments cannot be drafted as a matter of urgency and brought before the Legislative Council and Assembly without further delay.

Research is clear that with more people out of work, more people will be prepared or pressured to accept lower workplace standards. Employers will have more bargaining power over workers. Exploitation in supply chains for goods and services is expected to rise exponentially, both here in Australia and overseas, exacerbated by freedom of movement restrictions aimed at reducing the spread of the virus, which may provide cover for some to exploit and bond people.

Supply chains are not only about goods and services. They are about people. It is our moral duty to demonstrate compassion and our legal duty to protect people across the globe, especially with respect to the supply chains from which Australians benefit. With the COVID-19 pandemic increasing job insecurity, fear and vulnerabilities, a significant number of people will invariably be subjected to a degradation of their rights.

Your government has the ability to make significant advancement in human rights during the COVID-19 pandemic by bringing this legislation into force and working closely with Australian businesses to reduce and prevent modern slavery risks, and to be increasingly transparent about their supply chains.

If the State of NSW is serious about its commitment to ending modern slavery, the NSW Modern Slavery Act must be enforced as a matter of urgency.

We look forward to your prompt response and confirmation of a timeframe. Please reply to [carolyn.kitto@beslaveryfree.com](mailto:carolyn.kitto@beslaveryfree.com).

Yours faithfully,

## Organisations



**A Just Cause**  
Mr Scott Higgins  
<https://justcause.com.au>



**Anglican Church  
of Australia  
Public Affairs  
Commission**

Dr Carolyn Tan  
<https://anglican.org.au/our-work/social-issues-public-affairs/>



**Anglican Diocese of Canberra  
and Goulburn**

The Rt. Rev'd Dr Mark Short  
[www.anglicancg.org.au](http://www.anglicancg.org.au)



**Anglican  
Diocese of Grafton**

The Rt. Rev'd Dr Murray Harvey  
[www.graftondiocese.org.au](http://www.graftondiocese.org.au)



**Anglican Diocese of Newcastle**

The Rt. Rev'd Dr Peter Stuart  
[www.newcastleanglican.org.au](http://www.newcastleanglican.org.au)



**Anglican Parish of Gosford**

The Rev'd Rod Bower  
<https://www.anggos.com.au>



**Australian Association of  
Social Workers  
NSW Branch**  
Ms Mali Newmanplant  
[www.aasw.asn.au/new-south-wales](http://www.aasw.asn.au/new-south-wales)



**Australian Catholic Religious  
Against Trafficking in Humans**

Ms Christine Carolan  
[www.acrath.org.au](http://www.acrath.org.au)



**Australian Centre for  
Christianity and Culture**

The Rt. Rev'd Professor Stephen Pickard  
[www.acc-c.org.au](http://www.acc-c.org.au)



**Australian Churches of Christ  
Global Mission Partners**  
Rev'd John Gilmore  
[www.gmp.org.au](http://www.gmp.org.au)



**Australian Human  
Rights Institute**  
Professor Louise Chappell  
<https://humanrights.unsw.edu.au/>



**Business and Human Rights  
Subcommittee**

Madeleine Bridgett, Natalia Szablewska &  
Jessica Hatherall  
[www.alhr.org.au](http://www.alhr.org.au)



**Australian Muslim Times**

Mr Zia Ahmed  
<https://www.amust.com.au>



**BAPTIST  
WORLD AID  
AUSTRALIA**  
Be love. End poverty.

Mr Peter Keegan  
<https://baptistworldaid.org.au>



Ms Carolyn Kitto  
[www.beslaveryfree.com](http://www.beslaveryfree.com)



**Better Sydney**

Mr Robin Mellon  
[www.bettersydney.com.au](http://www.bettersydney.com.au)



Ms Kirsty Robertson  
<https://www.caritas.org.au>

**CAUSEWAY FILMS**

Ms Sam Jennings  
[www.causewayfilms.com.au](http://www.causewayfilms.com.au)



**For a world free of exploitation**

Ms Melinda Tankard-Reist  
[www.collectiveshout.org](http://www.collectiveshout.org)



The Rev'd Dr Patrick McNerney  
<https://www.columban.org.au/our-work/interfaith-relations/>



**Congregational Federation of NSW**

The Rev'd Aloese Filipaina  
[http://cfanz.org.au/cfanz.org.au/About\\_Us.html](http://cfanz.org.au/cfanz.org.au/About_Us.html)



Mr Tim LoSurdo  
<https://democracyincolour.org>



Ms Kate Rodwell  
[www.dfn.org.au](http://www.dfn.org.au)



Ms Delia Donovan  
<https://www.dvnsw.org.au/>



Senior Rabbi Jeffery B Kamins OAM  
[www.emanuel.org.au](http://www.emanuel.org.au)



Mr Mitchell Salmon  
[embody.org.au](http://embody.org.au)



Mr Ian Kikkert  
[www.empowercollection.com](http://www.empowercollection.com)



Ms Robyn Parkin  
[ethicalpartners.com.au](http://ethicalpartners.com.au)



Mr Nick Savaidis  
[www.etiko.com.au](http://www.etiko.com.au)



Rev'd John Martin  
<https://www.fta.org.au>



**Australia and New Zealand**  
Ms Molly Harriss Olson  
[www.fairtrade.com.au](http://www.fairtrade.com.au)



**Forget Me Not**  
**Australia Limited**

Ms Andrea Nave  
<https://fmn.org.au/>

**FREEDOMUNITED**  
LET'S END MODERN SLAVERY TOGETHER

Ms Joanna Ewart-James  
[www.freedomunited.org](http://www.freedomunited.org)



**Fresh Hope**  
Dr Andrew Ball  
[www.freshhope.org.au](http://www.freshhope.org.au)

**good on you** ♡

Mr Gordon Renouf  
[www.goodonyou.eco](http://www.goodonyou.eco)



**Hagar Australia**  
Ms Merewyn Foran  
<https://hagar.org.au>



Dr Lynn Kay  
[www.hopeforjustice.org](http://www.hopeforjustice.org)



Ms Keren Adams  
[www.hrlc.org.au](http://www.hrlc.org.au)

**INFORMED 365**

Mr Nicholas Bernhardt  
[www.informed365.com](http://www.informed365.com)

INTERNATIONAL COALITION TO  
**END TRANSPLANT  
ABUSE IN CHINA**

Ms Madeleine Bridgett and  
Mr Mitchell Coidan  
<https://endtransplantabuse.org>



**IJM**

**International Justice Mission**  
Mr Jacob Sarkodee  
[www.ijm.org.au](http://www.ijm.org.au)



**Intrepid Travel**  
Ms Sara King  
<https://www.intrepidtravel.com/au>



**Micah Australia**  
Mr Matt Darvas  
<http://www.micahaustralia.org>



**Missionary Society of St Columban**  
Father Peter O'Neill  
Columban Peace, Ecology and Justice  
Coordinator for Australia  
[www.columban.org.au](http://www.columban.org.au)



**Muslim Women Australia**  
Ms Maha Abdo  
[www.mwa.org.au](http://www.mwa.org.au)



**National Council of Jewish Women Australia**  
 Ms Negba Weiss-Dolev  
<https://www.ncjwa.org.au>



Ms Kelly Crawford  
[www.nswactbaptists.org.au](http://www.nswactbaptists.org.au)



Mr Vic Alhadeff  
[www.nswjbd.org](http://www.nswjbd.org)



**NSW Ecumenical Council**  
 On behalf of 16 member churches  
 The Rev'd Dr Ray Williamson OAM  
 The Very Rev'd Fr Dr Shenouda Mansour  
<https://www.nswec.org.au>



Ms Simone Watson  
<http://www.normac.org.au>



Ms Kristi Van Es  
[www.offspring.org](http://www.offspring.org)



Ms Clare Bartram  
<https://www.projectdidiaustralia.org>



Ms Rachel Reilly  
<https://www.projectrespect.org.au>



Ms Rebecca Nhep  
<https://au.rethinkorphanages.org>



Mr Scott Goddard  
[www.rrepp.com.au](http://www.rrepp.com.au)



Mr Tony Stokes  
[www.ragas.online](http://www.ragas.online)  
 Rotary Action Groups are neither an agency of, nor controlled by Rotary International



**Seena Inc**  
 Mrs Mehar Ahmed  
<https://www.seena.org.au>



**Spirited Consulting**  
 Mr Fuzz Kitto  
[www.spirited.net.au](http://www.spirited.net.au)



Ms Hayley Jarick  
[www.supplychainschool.org.au](http://www.supplychainschool.org.au)



**JOSEPHITE COUNTER-TRAFFICKING PROJECT**  
 Sr Margaret Ng  
<https://www.sosi.org.au/about-the-sisters/about-us/what-we-are-doing/supporting-families-and-women/josephite-counter-trafficking-project/>



Ms Arta Beikzadeh  
[www.sasglobe.com](http://www.sasglobe.com)



Ms Virginia Howard  
[www.taldumande.org.au](http://www.taldumande.org.au)



**The A21 Campaign Ltd**  
Ms Blake Looney  
<https://www.a21.org>



Ms Chloé Bailey  
[www.freedomfund.org](http://www.freedomfund.org)



**The Freedom Hub**  
Ms Sally Irwin  
[www.thefreedomhub.org/survivor-school](http://www.thefreedomhub.org/survivor-school)



Ending human trafficking & slavery  
Mr Mike Newton-Brown  
<https://www.thefreedomproject.org>



**The JAM (Justice and Mercy) Network**  
Ms Tanya Matthias  
[www.thejamnetwork.com](http://www.thejamnetwork.com)



**UNCHAINED**  
**Unchained Business Services Pty Limited**  
Dr Stephen Morse  
[www.unchained.net.au](http://www.unchained.net.au)



Mr Mark Morey  
<https://www.unionsnsw.org.au>



Rev'd Simon Hansford  
[www.nswact.uca.org.au](http://www.nswact.uca.org.au)



A project of  
**Not Forgotten Pty Ltd**  
Ms Jane Jeffes and Ms Becky Honey  
<http://waronslavery.org>



Mr Aleem Ali  
[www.welcoming.org.au](http://www.welcoming.org.au)



Mr Brad Chilcott  
[www.whiteribbon.org.au](http://www.whiteribbon.org.au)



Ms Helen Campbell OAM  
[www.wlsnsw.org.au](http://www.wlsnsw.org.au)



Rev'd Murray Fysh  
<http://www.spiritualitycentre.com.au/>



Mr Mustafa Allawi  
[www.hazen.com.au](http://www.hazen.com.au)

## Individuals

Dr	Ibrahim	Abu Mohamed	His Eminence, the Grand Mufti of Australia
Mr	Scott	Alden	Lawyer (Partner)
Ass Professor	Vikram	Bhakoo	Associate Professor, Business and Economics, University of Melbourne
Dr	Martijn	Boersma	Senior Lecturer, University of Technology Sydney Business School
Dr	Tim	Connor	Senior Lecturer, University of Newcastle, Law School
Dr	Penny	Crofts	Associate Professor
Professor	Holly	Cullen	Adjunct Professor of Law, University of Western Australia, Law School
Dr	Alice	De Jonge	Senior Lecturer, Monash Business School
Dr	Annie	Delaney	Senior Lecturer, College of Business & Law, RMIT University
Professor	Stephen	Frenkel	Emeritus Professor, Business School, University of NSW
Mr	Luke	Geary	Not-for-Profit Lawyer
Ms	Victoria	Gordon	Lawyer (Associate)
Rabbi	Zalman	Kastel AM	Rabbi
Ms	Carolyn	Liaw	Researcher, Anti-Slavery Australia
Professor	David	Lindsay	Professor, University of Technology Sydney, Faculty of Law
Dr	Trish	Luker	Senior Lecturer, University of Technology Sydney, Faculty of Law
Ass Professor	Amy	Maguire	University of Newcastle Law School
Very Rev Fr Dr	Shenouda	Mansour	General Secretary, NSW Ecumenical Council
Ass Professor	Shelley	Marshall	Director, Centre for Business and Human Rights, RMIT University
Dr	Darian	McBain	Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Integrated Sustainability Analysis, University of Sydney
Dr	Fiona	McGaughey	Senior Lecturer, Co-Chair UWA Modern Slavery Research Cluster
Cantor	George	Mordeci	Emanuel Synagogue (Sydney)
Dr	Joy	Murray	Senior Research Fellow, School of Physics, University of Sydney
Ms	Judith	Newton	PhD Candidate, School of Justice, Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology
Professor	Justine	Nolan	Professor, University of New South Wales, Faculty of Law
Dr	Erin	O'Brien	Senior Lecturer School of Justice, Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology
Ass Professor	Bronwyn	Olliffe	Associate Professor, Director of Professional Education, University of Technology Sydney
Mr	Kanishka	Raffel	Dean of St Andrews Cathedral, Sydney (Anglican)
Professor	Paul	Redmond AM	Emeritus Professor, Faculty of Law, University of NSW; Anti-Slavery Australian Management Committee
Professor	Wendy	Rogers	Professor of Clinical Ethics, Macquarie University
Mr	Fraser	Scott	International Ambassador United for Human Rights

Ms	Pam	Stewart	Senior Lecturer UTS Faculty of Law; Anti-Slavery Australia Management Committee Member
Professor	Anita	Stuhmcke	Associate Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Technology Sydney
Ms	Andrea	Tokaji	Consultant/Academic
Dr	Kate	van Doore	Senior Lecturer, Griffith University, Griffith Law School
Mr	Mark	Wallis	Granville Sharp (abolitionist) descendant
Mr	Philip Granville	Wallis	Barrister / Granville Sharp (abolitionist) descendant
Dr	Derek	Wilding	Faculty of Law, University of Technology Sydney
The Rev'd Dr	Raymond	Williamson OAM	President, NSW Ecumenical Council
Dr	Pichamon	Yeophantong	Senior Lecturer, University of New South Wales, Canberra

## ENDS

cc

Animal Justice Party – The Hon Emma Hurst MLC [emma.hurst@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:emma.hurst@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Australian Labor Party - Ms Jodi McKay MP (Leader of the Opposition) [leader.opposition@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:leader.opposition@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Christian Democratic Party – Reverend the Hon. Fred Nile MLC [F.Nile@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:F.Nile@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Pauline Hanson's One Nation Party – The Hon. Mark Latham, MLC [mark.latham@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mark.latham@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party – The Hon. Mark Banasiak MLC [mark.banasiak@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mark.banasiak@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

The Greens - Mr David Shoebridge, MLC [david.shoebridge@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:david.shoebridge@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

The Nationals – The Hon. John Barilaro, MP (Leader of the Nationals) [john.barilaro@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:john.barilaro@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Interim Anti-Slavery Commissioner – Professor Jennifer Burn, [Jennifer.Burn@dpc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Jennifer.Burn@dpc.nsw.gov.au)