



Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
By email only: legcon.sen@aph.gov.au

27 February 2024

Supplementary submission to Inquiry into the Administrative Review Tribunal Bill 2023 [Provisions] and related bills

1. We refer to EJA's submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs Inquiry into the Administrative Review Tribunal Bill 2023 (ART Bill) and the Administrative Review Tribunal (Consequential and Transitional Provisions No.1) Bill 2023 (Consequential and Transitional Bill), lodged on 18 January 2024. EJA now resubmits that submission as our primary submission to this Committee in respect of its Inquiry into the Administrative Review Tribunal Bill 2023 [Provisions] and related bills (submission attached).
2. In making this supplementary submission, with additional recommendations, we wish to make it clear that EJA and its members remain firmly of the view that the Administrative Review Tribunal should retain the Administrative Appeals Tribunal's two-tier structure for social security and family assistance matters, for the reasons set out in our primary submission.

Additional recommendations

3. Since lodging our primary submission we have had the opportunity to consider National Legal Aid's (NLA) comprehensive submissions to the inquiry.
4. EJA supports and endorses the recommendations made by NLA – particularly the recommendation that the effectiveness and impact of the legislation be reviewed within 2 years of being enacted.
5. NLA has also proposed a number of changes to the Bill, outlined in the Annexure to its submission. EJA supports and endorses these recommendations made by NLA in their entirety.

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