

[Open Letter from Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Australia](#)

Dear friends,

I'm sure you are aware of the current discussion about freedom of religion legislation.

There is a great opportunity at present for us to have a positive influence in the legislative process, and I'm calling on you to consider how you can respond and encourage your congregation to get involved as well.

I'm suggesting three ways in which you can act:

1. I urge you to read the pastoral letter ([Download from here](#)) and consider distributing it to your congregation, asking them to contact their federal MP.
2. I'm inviting you to download and print the petition ([Download from here](#)). As you do, please consider collecting signed copies of the petition and arranging for them to be mailed to Senator the Honourable Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, PO Box 886, Wollongong NSW 2520. (Note that only originals of the signed petition may be submitted to the Senate, so copies must be mailed).
3. I also draw your attention to an excellent briefing paper released this week by Freedom for Faith ([Download from here](#)). It will help you understand some of the complexities of the discussions about freedom of religion. It is aimed at ministers and leaders, so please circulate it to anyone you think would be interested. (Note that while Freedom for Faith supports the appointment of a Freedom of Religion Commissioner, the submission the Presbyterian Church made to the Ruddock enquiry was cautious about that proposal).

with warm regards,

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