Office of the Children's Guardian



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Policy Team Department of Communities and Justice

By email: policy@dcj.nsw.gov.au

7 February 2025

Dear Policy Team,

OCG submission on draft Claim Farming Practices Prohibition Bill 2025

I am writing in response to the draft Claim Farming Practices Prohibition Bill 2025 (the Bill).

With 32.0% of all Australians experiencing physical abuse as a child and 28.5% of all Australians experiencing sexual abuse as a child, the Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG) supports all efforts to help protect victim-survivors from exploitation and further abuse, as well as ensuring that pathways to justice are clear.

The OCG notes the draft Bill and its intended purpose of protecting members of the community from exploitative claim farming practices and reducing non-meritorious claims. We hope that, if the proposed provisions are enacted, they would not lead to unintended consequences such as diminishing or lessening victims' rights or capacity to make legitimate claims. We suggest that consideration be given to ensuring independent bodies, such as community legal services, industrial organisations and any other organisations that support victims without seeking payment, are well-equipped to ensure that victim-survivors are aware of the services available to them in making legitimate claims.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please email

Yours sincerely

Steve Kinmond OAM Children's Guardian