



The Research Director  
Communities, Disability Services and Domestic  
and Family Violence Prevention Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000  
By email: [cdsdfvpc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:cdsdfvpc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

24 November 2015

Dear Colleague,

**Re: Multicultural Recognition Bill 2015**

We appreciate the opportunity to make a submission in relation to the *Multicultural Recognition Bill 2015* ("the Bill").

We welcome the introduction of the Bill and agree with the objectives. We note the Multicultural Queensland Charter (Schedule 1) commences with:

*Because—*

*the Parliament—*

- *Honours the Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the First Australians, whose lands, winds and waters we all now share, and their ancient and enduring cultures;*

We feel it is important that the Charter not only “pays its respects” to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (as outline above), but that it goes beyond such and specifically recognises the special place they (we) hold within our multi-cultural society by virtue of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples being the original inhabitants of this land (i.e. First Nations’ peoples). Accordingly, we would suggest that the Multicultural Queensland Charter be amended slightly, and be couched in the following terms:-

*Because—*

*the Parliament—*

- *Honours the Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the First Australians, whose lands, winds and waters we all now share, and their ancient and enduring cultures as well as acknowledge the special place they hold by virtue of being First Nations’ peoples;*

We thank the Committee for this opportunity to provide feedback and wish it well with its deliberations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane Duffy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shane Duffy  
Chief Executive Officer