



1<sup>st</sup> September, 2025

### **Re: Anti-Discrimination Amendment Bill 2025**

I write to you to express concerns on behalf of the NT Mental Health Coalition regarding the proposed Anti-Discrimination Amendment Bill that is currently being reviewed by NT Parliament. I understand that the Bill is scheduled to be reviewed in Parliament soon. Please take the following concerns into consideration:

**1. Heightened standard of proof relating to incitement**

This change assumes that people who experience vilification have equal access to the complaint and review process. People living with mental health issues or a disability will experience challenges in meeting the new standard relating to vilification, particularly those with cognitive difficulties.

**2. Public education relating to changes**

Some organisations have begun producing their own materials to increase awareness around this (and other policy) changes. The NT Government has a responsibility to the community and must prioritise notifying vulnerable groups likely impacted by these changes. It is concerning that materials have not been made readily available to the community to better inform them of the impact these proposed changes may have.

**3. Impact on the mental health of community**

I urge you to recognise the psychological toll amending this legislation has on our community, particularly on people who identify as LGBTIQ+, Aboriginal and Torres Islander, persons living with disabilities and young people.

Although these points relate particularly to section 20A, we believe the insertion of section 35B poses additional problems and would benefit from further community and organisational consultation.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our concerns relating to the Amendment Bill. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns further.

Yours faithfully,

Geoff Radford  
Chief Executive Officer