

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ACT — REFORM

1435. Hon Dr BRAD PETTITT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:

I refer to the Attorney General's announcement, dated 16 August 2022, to overhaul the Equal Opportunity Act.

- (1) Can the Attorney General confirm that the legislation to amend the Equal Opportunity Act has already been substantially drafted?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) Will the legislation include reforms to ensure effective oversight of clinical practices that modify sex characteristics of people with intersex variations, and end harmful and irreversible practices that do so without informed consent?
- (4) If not, what actions have been taken by the Attorney General to protect the rights of people with variations in sex characteristics in medical settings in line with health policy 109 in the 2022 WA Labor Platform?

Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following response has been provided by the Attorney General and I answer on behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General.

- (1)–(4) The Cook government is committed to reforming Western Australia's Equal Opportunity Act. The drafting of new legislation is underway and will be introduced when possible. This is a large and complex drafting exercise that cannot be rushed.

The new reforms will replace legislation that is almost four decades old and will take into account the recent review by the Law Reform Commission, which made 163 recommendations. The government has an extensive legislative reform program that it is committed to delivering.