Mick Gentleman MLA



Member for Brindabella

Manager of Government Business Minister for Police and Emergency Services Minister for the Environment and Heritage Minister for Planning and Land Management Minister for Urban Renewal

Obj 17/21615

Mr Tom Duncan Clerk ACT Legislative Assembly London Circuit CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Dupean Out

Thank you for your letter of 1 August 2017 regarding petitions No. 14-17 and 17-17 lodged by Ms Lee MLA on behalf of certain Australian Capital Territory residents.

I understand the petitions bring to the attention of the Assembly that billboards have been prohibited in the ACT since the early 20th century, a move which was designed to protect the new capital's national significance and preserve its nature character and bush setting. The petitioners note that Canberra's unique status as the 'bush capital' is not threatened by a proposal to relax the regulations that prohibit fixed billboards in the ACT.

The petitioners therefore requested the Assembly maintain the prohibition on billboard advertising in the ACT, and properly enforce the current rules that regulate public advertising in the ACT, and properly enforce the current rules that regulate public advertising in the Territory.

The Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal (the Standing Committee) received 166 submissions on its Inquiry into Billboards – including an ACT Government submission – and held hearings on the submissions during August and September 2017. The Standing Committee tabled its report on 26 October and the Government will now carefully consider all of the recommendations made by the Committee and will provide a response in due course.

Yours sincerely

Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister, for, Planning and Land Management

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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