

Friday, 5 March 2021

## Independent review into parliamentary workplace culture a positive says Law Council

*All comments to be attributed to Law Council President, Dr Jacoba Brasch QC*

“Today’s government announcement that there will be an independent review into parliamentary workplace culture, is welcomed by the Law Council of Australia.

The appointment of Sex Discrimination Commissioner Ms Kate Jenkins to oversee the inquiry is to be applauded.

All employers have a duty to eliminate sex discrimination, sexual harassment and victimisation.

Sexual harassment is entirely unacceptable wherever it occurs.

The Law Council vehemently maintains that every person is entitled to feel safe and to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect in the workplace.

Those entrusted with positions of power in our society have a special responsibility to uphold the law and the rights of others, including the rights of women to be treated with respect and dignity in the workplace.

The Law Council also believe that persons in positions of power should be alert to the vulnerability of junior staff members, and their duty of care to protect junior staff from exploitation in all its forms.”

ENDS

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