



**TOP END WOMEN'S
LEGAL SERVICE INC.**

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21 November 2022

Chief Executive Officer
Department of Territory Families
Housing and Communities
PO Box 37037
WINELLIE NT 0801

By email only: TFHC.LawReform@nt.gov.au

Dear Mr Davies,

Submission to the Care and Protection of Children Act 2007 Amendment Draft Bill – Top End Women’s Legal Service & Katherine Women’s Information and Legal Service

Thank you for inviting further comments on the exposure draft of the Care and Protection of Children Act Amendment Bill 2023 (NT) (“the Bill”). The Top End Women’s Legal Service (“TEWLS”) and Katherine Women’s Legal Service (“KWILS”) welcome the opportunity to provide comment.

Endorsement of Aboriginal Legal Services Submission

KWILS and TEWLS take this opportunity to endorse the Joint Response to the Discussion Paper on the Care and Protection of Children Amendment Bill 2022 dated 29 March 2022, prepared by the North Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Service, Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit and North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency, collectively the Aboriginal Legal Services (“ALS”) and further comment provided in response to the Bill.

Further Comment

KWILS and TEWLS welcome the strengthening of cultural frameworks within the Bill. We further support the inclusion of principles around relationship building and strongly view this to be key to successful outcomes for families. KWILS and TEWLS echo the ALS calls for further specific judicial oversight of child protection matters and conduct of case management.

Should you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Siobhan Mackay, chief executive officer, KWILS by telephone on (08) 8972 1712 or email to info@kwils.com.au

Yours faithfully,

Caitlin Weatherby-Fell

Chief Executive Officer

Siobhan Mackay

Chief Executive Officer