

PETITION for a CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

This Petition of citizens of New South Wales brings to the attention of the House the absence of a Charter of Human Rights in NSW. Amnesty International Australia notes that Australia is one of very few advanced democracies that do not have a Charter or Bill of Rights protecting the human rights of its citizens. While parliaments in Victoria and the ACT have adopted human rights legislation, which have proven successful in protecting citizens against human rights abuses, the NSW Parliament is yet to do so.

The undersigned petitioners ask the Legislative Assembly to:

1. Recognise that while a range of human rights are protected in NSW under various state and federal legislative instruments, there is no overarching human rights legislation that protects the human rights of all NSW citizens.
2. Acknowledge the value of a comprehensive Human Rights Charter that protects basic human rights including equality before the law, freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, the right to privacy, the right to education, freedom of conscience and religious belief, the rights of minorities and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
3. Commits to supporting a Charter of Human Rights for NSW that is enacted by legislation.

Name	Address	Signature	Email

Please return this petition to Amnesty International Australia: Locked Bag 23, Broadway NSW 2007