

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE OF MOTION

Minister Fletcher:

I give notice that on the next day of sitting I shall move that:

1. a Select Committee on Social Media and Online Safety be established to inquire into:
 - a. the range of online harms that may be faced by Australians on social media and other online platforms, including harmful content or harmful conduct;
 - b. evidence of:
 - i. the potential impacts of online harms on the mental health and wellbeing of Australians;
 - ii. the extent to which algorithms used by social media platforms permit, increase or reduce online harms to Australians;
 - iii. existing identity verification and age assurance policies and practices and the extent to which they are being enforced;
 - c. the effectiveness, take-up and impact of industry measures, including safety features, controls, protections and settings, to keep Australians, particularly children, safe online;
 - d. the effectiveness and impact of industry measures to give parents the tools they need to make meaningful decisions to keep their children safe online;
 - e. the transparency and accountability required of social media platforms and online technology companies regarding online harms experienced by their Australians users;
 - f. the collection and use of relevant data by industry in a safe, private and secure manner;
 - g. actions being pursued by the Government to keep Australians safe online; and
 - h. consider any other related matter.
2. the committee present its final report on or before 15 February 2022;
3. the committee consist of eight members, five Members to be nominated by the Government Whip, and three Members to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or by any non-aligned Member;
4. participating members may:

- a. be appointed to the committee on the nomination of the Government Whip, the Opposition Whip or any minority party or independent member; and
 - b. participate in hearings of evidence and deliberations of the committee, and have all the rights of members of the committee, but may not vote on any question before the committee;
2. every nomination of a member of the committee be notified in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
3. the members of the committee hold office as a joint select committee until presentation of the committee's final report or until the House of Representatives is dissolved or expires by effluxion of time, whichever is the earlier;
4. the committee may proceed to the dispatch of business notwithstanding that not all members have been duly nominated and appointed and notwithstanding any vacancy;
5. the committee elect:
 - a. a Government member as its chair; and
 - b. a non-Government member as its deputy chair who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee;
6. at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee, the members present shall elect another member to act as chair at that meeting;
7. in the event of an equally divided vote, the chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, have a casting vote;
8. three members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee;
9. the committee:
 - a. have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of three or more of its members, and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine; and
 - b. appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only;
10. at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee, the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting;
11. two members of a subcommittee constitute the quorum of that subcommittee;
12. members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum;
13. the committee or any subcommittee have power to:
 - a. call for witnesses to attend and for documents to be produced;
 - b. conduct proceedings at any place it sees fit;
 - c. sit in public or in private;
 - d. report from time to time; and
 - e. adjourn from time to time and to sit during any adjournment of the House of Representatives;
14. the committee or any subcommittee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of any former committee on related matters; and

15. the provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

..... (signed)

Mover