



**youth affairs council**  
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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The Hon Vickie Chapman MP  
Attorney General  
GPO Box 464  
Adelaide SA 5001  
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4 March 2021

Dear Attorney General,

**Civil Liability (Institutional Child Abuse Liability) Amendment Bill 2021**

The Youth Affairs Council of South Australia (YACSA) is the peak body in South Australia representing the interests of young people, youth workers, organisations, and networks throughout the non-government youth sector. Policy positions are independent and not aligned with any political party or movement. YACSA supports the fundamental right of all young people to participate in and contribute to all aspects of community life, particularly the decision-making processes that impact them.

YACSA reaffirms our support for reforms that address barriers impacting the ability of survivors of institutional child abuse to access justice. We also note that the amended Bill contains some of the measures that we suggested in our response to the Civil Liability (Institutional Child Abuse Liability) Amendment Bill 2020 in August 2020.

YACSA supports the introduction of provisions to give courts the discretion to assess and set aside settlement agreements for child abuse as this will be vital for survivors who may have accepted unfair or unjust settlements in the past. These provisions will be critical in ensuring that the survivors of child abuse can have their claims considered on their merits, receive fair compensation for the harm they have suffered and ultimately have access to justice.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Bainbridge  
CEO