1 July 2020

The Hon Vickie Chapman MP
Attorney-General
GPO Box 464
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Via: AttorneyGeneral@sa.gov.au

Dear Ms Attorney

**Spent Convictions (Designated Sex-Related Offences) Amendment Bill 2020**

I refer to your letter of 4 June 2020 in relation to the Spent Convictions (Designated Sex-Related Offences) Amendment Bill 2020 (“the Bill”).

The Bill amends the Spent convictions Act 2009 (“the Act”) in relation to the ability to spend a conviction for a decriminalised sex offence. Specifically, the Bill seeks to amend section 8A of the Act to remove the requirement to complete a qualification period before applying to spend a designated sex-related offence (DSRO) relating to historical homosexual convictions.

The Society notes the Bill also removes any discretion (i.e. replaces “may make an order” with “must make an order”) from the provision for spending a DSRO, to affirm that if an applicant establishes that the offence constituted consensual sexual activity which has ceased to be an offence, then they are entitled to have the conviction spent.

The Society understands these reforms have been progressed based on a recommendation of the LGBTIQ+ Roundtable Report. The Society considers these amendments to be appropriate and supports the Bill.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Tim White
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