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| Disability Inclusion Bill |
| Stakeholder toolkit |

# Key information

## General

* The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing is consulting on the development of new legislation to advance and promote disability inclusion in Victoria.
* We want your help to shape Victoria’s future disability inclusion legislation.
* Proposed inclusion reforms include the development of new legislation aimed at advancing disability inclusion and equality.
* The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing has released an exposure draft of the Disability Inclusion Bill for feedback from people with disability and the wider community.
* An exposure draft is a draft piece of legislation that is released by a government agency for public consultation. An exposure draft may be updated or changed, and may or may not be introduced to Parliament following public consultation.
* One in five Victorians are people with disability.
* Victorians with disability are diverse and come from a variety of backgrounds with different interests and lived experiences.
* We know that people with disability are more likely to experience discrimination and encounter barriers in their everyday life. This needs to change.
* People with disability have the right to expect the same opportunities as other Victorians and to live the lives they choose.

## The Disability Inclusion Bill

* The Disability Inclusion Bill is a critical part of the Victorian Government’s broader reform agenda to achieve transformative equality for people with disability.
* The Disability Inclusion Bill aims to support and promote the purpose and principles of the United Nations’ Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
* The Disability Inclusion Bill is being released as an exposure draft for public comment.
* The proposed legislation aims to promote and advance disability inclusion, with a focus on the public sector, local government, public universities, and other entities.
* The Disability Inclusion Bill proposes a number of key reforms, including the establishment of a Commissioner for Disability Inclusion to help promote and monitor progress in advancing disability inclusion.
* The Disability Inclusion Bill would create new obligations for the public sector, local government, public universities and other entities to promote and advance disability inclusion.
* The Disability Inclusion Bill would introduce new provisions to improve transparency and accountability for making and reporting on progress to advance disability inclusion and achieve equality in Victoria.
* Development of the Disability Inclusion Bill has been informed by close engagement with the Disability Act Review Advisory Group and consultation with people with disability, advocates, sector representatives and the wider public.
* Consultation on the Disability Inclusion Bill follows consultations on the review of the *Disability Act 2006* and development of *Inclusive Victoria: State Disability Plan 2022-26*.
* The Disability Inclusion Bill is an opportunity to create a more equal and accessible community.
* This Disability Inclusion Bill presents an opportunity to strengthen Victoria's inclusion agenda for many years to come.

## Consultation

* It’s important that everyone has an opportunity to contribute to the future direction of Victoria’s disability inclusion legislative framework.
* There’s never been a more important time to contribute to the future of disability inclusion in Victoria.
* You have a valuable role to play in building a more inclusive and equal Victoria by sharing your personal knowledge, insights and expertise during consultation for the Disability Inclusion Bill.
* There are different ways you can contribute. You can make a written, video or audio submission, take part in an online consultation, or share your personal story - we will carefully consider all feedback we receive
* The more people that share their ideas on the Disability Inclusion Bill, the better the outcomes will be for all Victorians.
* More information on the Disability Inclusion Bill, including a copy of the Bill, an accessible overview paper, details on how to make a submission and information on consultation activities is available on [Engage Victoria](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au/disability-act) <http://www.engage.vic.gov.au/disability-act>.
* Visit https://engage.vic.gov.au/disability-act to get involved.
* The consultation period will begin on 20 September and will run for approximately six to eight weeks, closing on 31 October 2022
* The Disability Inclusion Bill Exposure Draft Overview Paper summarises major elements of the disability inclusion reforms proposed in the Disability Inclusion Bill.
* The Disability Inclusion Bill Exposure Draft Overview Paper is available in a range of formats, including Auslan, audio, e-text, easy read and braille.
* The Disability Inclusion Bill Exposure Draft Overview Paper is also available in Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Hindi, Vietnamese, and Arabic.

# Social media posts

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| Platform | Copy |
| **Facebook/LinkedIn – consultation launch** | Help shape reforms for a more inclusive Victoria!  The Disability Inclusion Bill consultation is now open.  Visit Engage Victoria to find out more and get involved.  Consultation materials are available in Auslan, e-text, audio, braille, and easy read.  Consultation closes on 31 October 2022.  <https://engage.vic.gov.au/disability-act> |
| **Twitter – consultation launch** | Help shape Victoria’s future disability inclusion agenda. The #VicDisabilityInclusionBill consultation is now open: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/disability-act> |
| **Facebook/LinkedIn – reminder** | There are only a few weeks left to provide your feedback on the Disability Inclusion Bill.  Don’t forget to pop over to the consultation page on Engage Victoria to help shape Victoria’s future disability inclusion agenda.  Consultation materials are available in Auslan, e-text, audio, braille, and easy read formats.  Consultation closes 31 October 2022.  <https://engage.vic.gov.au/disability-act> |
| **Twitter – reminder** | There are only a few weeks left to provide feedback on the #VicDisabilityInclusionBill. Don’t forget to pop over to Engage Victoria to help shape Victoria’s future disability inclusion agenda.  <https://engage.vic.gov.au/disability-act> |

# Newsletter article

**Help shape Victoria’s first Disability Inclusion Bill**

All Victorians are encouraged to have their say on proposed legislative reforms to make Victoria fairer and more inclusive.

During consultations to inform the review of the *Disability Act 2006* and development of *Inclusive Victoria: State Disability Plan 2022-26*, Victorians raised the need for dedicated legislation to drive a contemporary and proactive approach to advancing disability inclusion in Victoria.

The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing has released an exposure draft of the Disability Inclusion Bill for public consultation and is now seeking community feedback.

An exposure draft is a version of a draft Bill that is released by a government agency for public consultation.

An exposure draft may be updated or changed, and may or may not be introduced to Parliament following public consultation.

The overview paper is available in a variety of formats, including easy read, braille, e-text, audio and Auslan. It is also available in Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Hindi, Vietnamese, and Arabic.

The consultation period runs from 20 September 2022 to 31 October 2022.

More information, including a copy of the Disability Inclusion Bill, overview paper, details on how to make a submission and information on consultation activities is available on [Engage Victoria](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au/disability-act) <http://www.engage.vic.gov.au/disability-act>.

Watch a [video](https://vimeo.com/741757998/30b6d94b11) of the Chair of Victorian Disability Act Review Advisory Group, Graeme Innes AM, discussing the Disability Inclusion Bill and how the public can share their ideas during the consultation: <<https://vimeo.com/741757998/30b6d94b11>>

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