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*Re: proposal to replace the parliamentary prayer with an invitation to prayer or reflection*

The Lord's Prayer has a legitimate place in parliament as one of the founding standing orders from the beginning of Australian federal parliament in 1901. It is an essential part of our inherited identity as a nation established under a Judeo-Christian legal system. It acknowledges our continuing legal and cultural heritage as being decisively shaped by a Christian ethos.

The Lord's Prayer is a reminder to all parliamentarians that they are not the highest power – that is why many Australians are reassured in the knowledge that so many of their elected representatives attend its daily reading in parliament.

**Our strong belief is that the use of the Lord's Prayer as the Parliamentary prayer should be retained.**

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance in the consideration of this matter. I would be pleased to address the committee or provide further information for the committee's consideration if required.

Yours sincerely,

**Martyn Iles**  
**Managing Director**

#### ***About Australian Christian Lobby***

ACL seeks to see a compassionate, just and moral society through having the public contributions of the Christian faith reflected in the political life of the nation.

With more than 100,000 supporters, ACL facilitates professional engagement and dialogue between the Christian constituency and government, allowing the voice of Christians to be heard in the public square. ACL is neither party-partisan nor denominationally aligned. ACL representatives bring a Christian perspective to policy makers in Federal, State and Territory Parliaments.