



## POSITION STATEMENT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **PHYSICAL DISABILITY AUSTRALIA JOINS DISABILITY REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATIONS TO DEMAND HALT TO GOVERNMENT'S NDIS BILL AMENDMENTS**

Physical Disability Australia (PDA) joins other Disability Peak Bodies in calling on members of the Senate to vote **no** on the government's proposed National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Amendment Bill.

Physical Disability Australia (PDA), the peak body for people with physical disabilities, has grave concerns about the constitutional and human rights implications of the Government's proposed Bill. Following the government's response to the Disability Royal Commission (DRC), the lack of consensus with state and territory governments on providing support outside of the NDIS highlights a lack of commitment to the rights and safety of all disabled Australians.

*PDA reaffirms the statement of its South Australian Associate Director, Krystal Matthews: "The disability community's combined voices of lived experience were not embedded in the government's response. The government has seemingly based its decisions on economics, leaving us stuck in a funding war between federal and state whilst still leaving disabled people at risk of violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation—the very things that the Disability Royal Commission was meant to address and provide protection from."*

The bill relies on foundational supports, rules and legislative instruments that currently do not exist. These supports are expected to be provided by State and Territory governments, who have stated that they will not be able to implement them in time. This leaves people with disabilities with nowhere to turn.

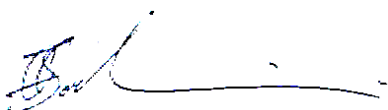
Implementing this bill needs to be slowed or stopped until there is consensus from state governments on shared responsibilities, especially in ensuring timely crisis response where serious risk exists and a person's disability is a factor. This is particularly crucial in matters of abuse,

neglect, homelessness, and other needs that are critical to maintaining the human rights of people with disabilities.

Without this consensus and clarity, moving forward with the bill risks leaving people with disabilities vulnerable and without the necessary support systems in place. The stakes are too high, and the potential consequences too severe to rush this process. We urge the government to take the time to get this right, ensuring that the NDIS continues to meet the needs of those it was designed to support.

The Board of Physical Disability Australia (PDA) understands that consultation does not lead to consensus; however, it is clear that people with a disability want their disability needs understood at a person-centred level, not a diagnostic model. The Board is available and willing to engage in discussions with those responsible for making decisions on this bill. We look forward to contributing to a more effective and inclusive NDIS framework.

Our community asks for a fair go—a right to be included in the community and to be treated as equal partners in decisions that affect our lives in meaningful ways.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Fairbairn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ANDREW FAIRBAIRN  
PRESIDENT  
WA State Director  
PHYSICAL DISABILITY AUSTRALIA