Attorney-General

Minister for Industrial Relations Leader of the House

MC19-011078

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Mayor David O'Loughlin President, Australian Local Government Association 8 Geils Court DEAKIN ACT 2600 alga@alga.asn.au

Dear Mayor O'Loughlin

Thank you for your letter of 14 August 2019 regarding Resolution 101 from the National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA). I appreciate the time you have taken to bring this matter to my attention.

The Government believes in an Australia where everyone is free to speak their mind, in which rights are accompanied by responsibilities, in which there is absolutely no place for racism. The *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* plays an important role in protecting the individual's right from discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin in any field of public life.

The Government considers that existing mechanisms to protect and promote human rights, including the protections in place under anti-discrimination legislation at the Commonwealth, state and territory levels, are appropriate. On this basis, the Government does not propose to make changes to the Racial Discrimination Act at this time.

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Christian Porter MP

Attorney-General

Minister for Industrial Relations

Leader of the House