Suicide Prevention Australia

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30 October 2026

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

To the Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications,

Re: Online Safety Amendment (Digital Duty of Care) Bill 2026

Suicide Prevention Australia welcomes the opportunity to provide input on the Online Safety Amendment (Digital Duty of Care) Bill 2026. We are the national peak body for the suicide prevention sector. With over 360 members representing more than 140,000 workers, staff, and volunteers across Australia, we provide a collective voice for service providers, practitioners, researchers, local collaboratives, and people with lived experience.

We strongly support this legislation which will help to prevent suicides by creating a safer online environment for Australians. We welcome that legislation lists material encouraging suicide or self-harm as seriously harmful, and imposes penalties where platforms fail to protect Australians from this content. The legislation also lists a range of other harmful materials many of which have been demonstrated to increase the risk of suicide, such child sexual abuse.

In addition, we welcome that materials to promote public health and reduce harm to individuals are explicitly excluded from the list of seriously harmful materials. Many of our members have websites and online materials that safely discuss suicide and its prevention in order help individuals at risk of suicide, and those that care for them, to find supports and resources. This provision helps remove the risk restricting these websites and materials as an unintended consequence of the Bill.

We applaud the Government's focus on a digital duty of care to create safer online spaces and reduce the risks of suicide.

Yours sincerely,

Nieves Murray
Chief Executive Officer
Suicide Prevention Australia