

4 September 2018

The Hon Scott Morrison MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister,

RE: Modern Slavery Bill 2018

As leaders of civil society, business, investors, academics and faith-based organisations, we write to share with you our strong support for the Modern Slavery Bill 2018.

We support a unified approach in addressing modern slavery and believe meaningful improvement for individuals affected by slavery requires a collaborative effort between government, business, and civil society. We commend the open and extensive consultation process undertaken by Government in crafting this legislation and note the enormous amount of goodwill, time and effort contributed by stakeholders to see the bill introduced into the House.

The Modern Slavery Bill 2018 provides a welcome, strong start to improving responses to modern slavery in supply chains. We are generally supportive of the recommendations of the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee report on the provisions of the bill, particularly recommendations that the Government work towards building a list of 'reporting entities' and that an independent statutory officer be appointed to support the operation of the Modern Slavery Act.

One additional area where we believe the bill could be strengthened would be the introduction of an amendment to Part 4 Section 24 to establish a rolling three-year review. Such an amendment would signal the Government's commitment to a long-term, developmental approach to supporting businesses and other entities to eliminate modern slavery from their supply chains.

This is a watershed moment for Australia. We have an unprecedented opportunity to assume global leadership in the fight against slavery in supply chains. Business and civil society have rallied to this cause; we hope to see the bill relisted for debate in September and we encourage all Parliamentarians to work collaboratively and in good faith to see this bill through to enactment before the end of 2018.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the bill's progress in further detail. Thank you for your consideration.







