

s22C Bail Law review submission Select Committee on Youth Justice

About this submission

This submission was prepared by Dr Rory Gillard from the Advocacy, Research and Policy Unit at **CRC**.

What we are asking for

We believe section **22C** of the **Bail Act** should be **removed**.

This law was introduced in 2024 and made it **harder** for people to **get bail**.

Why this matters

We are concerned that section 22C is leading to more children being held in custody.

This especially affects **First Nations children**.

This has serious and harmful impacts on First Nations **families** and **communities**.

What the evidence shows

There is strong evidence that other approaches work better for **children**.

Programs that are:

- based in the **community**
- focused on **prevention**
- focused on **support** and **diversion**

are more effective than putting children in detention.

Our view

Keeping **children out of prison** and **supporting them** in the **community** is a better way to respond to problematic behaviour.