



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA  
Legal and Social Issues Standing Committee – Legislative Council

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Spent convictions inquiry to hear personal stories at open mic forum**

Community members affected by the lack of a spent convictions scheme in Victoria will be telling their stories at an open mic forum at Parliament House this Wednesday 19 June 2019.

Last week the Legislative Council’s Legal and Social Issues Committee issued an invitation for community members to share their experiences at the forum as part of its investigation into legislating a spent convictions scheme for Victoria.

“We’re delighted that a number of people have stepped forward and are willing to share their stories with us,” Committee Chair Fiona Patten said.

The open mic forum will be held at Parliament House from 7:00 pm tomorrow night, and anyone still wishing to register to speak can phone 0417322053.

“These personal stories will provide valuable information for our inquiry as we seek to shape a spent convictions scheme that responds to the real-life situations people have faced,” Ms Patten said.

Under the terms of reference for the inquiry, the Committee is considering the design of a spent convictions scheme that would be appropriate for Victoria, including the types of criminal records that should be capable of becoming spent and the mechanism by which convictions become spent.

“The Committee is grateful to the people who have responded to our invitation and we look forward to hearing their stories so that we have real-life situations on which to base our findings and recommendations,” Ms Patten said.

More information on the inquiry is available from the Committee’s [website](#).

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