

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Mat Kimberley
Sent: Wednesday, 7 September 2022 6:07 PM
To: s 47F(1)
Cc: Emily Fisher; s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Kate Duff
Subject: Contingency TPs for Bill passed or Bill referred to Committee [REDACTED]

s 47F(1) and s 47F(1)

We have prepared contingency TP's for the vote tomorrow in Honiara – Ewen has cleared - but welcome views and happy to discuss.

On the TP's we don't proposed to re-issue tonight as the response from the FM was consistent with the proposed approach – but again if you have views either way please do let me know and happy to look at these.

We will of course review the QTB for anything overnight and issue TP's once the outcome of the vote is clear.

Solomon Islands Parliament passes the Constitutional Amendment Bill

- Understand that the Solomon Islands Parliament has passed the Constitutional Amendment Bill, and its Parliament will now continue until the end of 2023 with the election to be held in early 2024.
 - This is a matter for members of the Solomon Islands Parliament and the people of Solomon Islands.
- Australia has always taken the view that democracy matters, and democratic conventions are important.
 - Australia respects Solomon Islands' sovereignty and the integrity of its democratic processes
- Australia has offered and stands ready to provide Solomon Islands Government with further assistance to deliver its next general election, if it is requested of us.
 - And look forward to supporting Solomon Islands to prepare for and host the 2023 Pacific Games.

If pressed: Why is Australia's assistance supporting delayed elections?

- Australia has supported national elections in Solomon Islands over the past 20 years, including the last election in 2019.
- The timing of the elections is a matter for members of the Solomon Islands Parliament.
- We have offered the Solomon Islands Government further assistance for its next election.
 - Australia is committed to supporting Solomon Islands' democratic processes irrespective when the elections are held.

s 33(a)(iii)

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.