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## Exclusion of LGBTIQ+ people from Census

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To: Info SARAA <info@saraa.org.au>

Fri, Sep 13, 2024 at 9:40 AM

Good morning

Thank you for your correspondence to the Hon Mark Butler MP, Member for Hindmarsh.

The Albanese Government is setting a new topic of 'sexual orientation and gender' for inclusion in the 2026 Census.

This will allow the Australian Bureau of Statistics to ask questions on sexual orientation and gender for the first time, providing important information to the Government for LGBTIQ+ policy. It will also allow the Government to have the tools to address health and social inequities faced by the LGBTIQ+ community.

These questions will only be asked of people aged 16 and over, and the ABS has told the Government that people will have the option not to answer if they do not wish to.

The new topic reflects consultation with the ABS's LGBTIQ+ Expert Advisory Committee, including key peak bodies in the sector. This consultation will be ongoing with both the community as well as the ABS.

We value every Australian, regardless of their faith, race, gender, or LGBTIQ+ status. Ensuring that Australians can be included in our national census is an important tool for both policy development as well as inclusivity for these Australians.

The Government will make a legislative instrument to implement these changes and will introduce this instrument before the end of the year

Kind regards

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### Office of the Hon Mark Butler MP

**Mark Butler MP** | Minister for  
Health and  
Aged Care  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR HINDMARSH

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We acknowledge the Kaurna people, their Elders past, present and emerging, on whose lands we meet and work.

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