

AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION REPORT — DISABILITY — EVIDENCE LAWS

**44. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Attorney General:**

- (1) Is the Attorney General aware of a recent Australian Human Rights Commission report that shows that people with disabilities who are the victims of a crime, accused of a crime or a witness to a crime do not enjoy equality before the law?
- (2) If yes to (1), did the Attorney General note the call for Western Australia to adopt uniform evidence laws to remove some of the barriers to equality?
- (3) Does the Attorney General intend to adopt these laws; and, if not, why not?
- (4) If yes to (3), when?

**Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The Australian Human Rights Commission report “Equal Before the Law: Towards Disability Justice Strategies” does not call for Western Australia to adopt uniform evidence laws. The report acknowledges that Western Australia has its own legislation that addresses barriers to access to justice for people with disability.
- (3) No. See answer (2).
- (4) Not applicable.