



Gavin Pearce MP
Federal Member for Braddon

Media statement

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Labor threatens religious education

An alliance of Australian faith leaders has warned that the future of religious education is under threat if they are unable to choose teachers in accordance with their religious ethos.

In an unprecedented move, more than 30 leaders from the Christian, Jewish and Islamic faiths, have written to Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus raising their genuine concern about the proposal that is currently before the Australian Law Reform Commission.

Federal Member for Braddon, Gavin Pearce MP, said that Australia is blessed because of the choices we have within our education system – which is diverse and reflects our society more broadly.

“Parents choose faith-based schools because they want their children educated in a community where staff adhere to and support their family’s faith traditions,” Mr Pearce said.

“If you don’t wish to have your child educated in a faith-based school then there is an array of other fantastic options.”

“I am 100% committed to the law continuing to allow faith-based schools to preference adherents and supporters of their ethos in decisions about employment.”

“I respect the rights of parents to raise their children in accordance with their beliefs. This is a fundamental part of Australia’s multicultural and multifaith tradition.”

“The Albanese Labor government is breaking its commitment to schools and parents on this issue. It is a complete betrayal of all people of faith within Australia.

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