



FAQS – REACHING OUT TO POLITICIANS

Question – Which politicians should I reach out to?

Answer – Because the *National Organic Standard Bill 2024* (The Bill) is being introduced in the Federal Parliament the Organic Development Group (ODG) suggests you reach out to Federal members and senators.

Question – Should I focus on a particular party?

Answer – Because the bill is a private senators bill being introduced by the Coalition you should focus on Labor, Greens and Crossbench MPs and Senators. This is because these representatives will have an important role in the progression of any new regulatory framework.

Question – Should I focus on a particular politician?

Answer – The ODG encourages you to reach out to Minister for Agriculture, Julie Collins MP and Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Senator Anthony Chisholm as both of these Ministers are responsible for the agriculture portfolio in Australia.

Please see the contact details for Minister Collins [here](#) and for Assistant Minister Chisholm [here](#).

If you export, the ODG would also encourage you to reach out to Minister for Trade, Senator Don Farrell and Assistant Minister for Trade, Senator Tim Ayres

Please see the contact details for Minister Farrell [here](#) and for Assistant Minister Ayres [here](#)

The ODG has also prepared a template letter if you wished to reach out to representatives directly. The letter can be found here [Template Letter for Local Member or Senator.docx](#)

Question – What if my local MP is a member of the Coalition?

Answer – You can still reach out to the MP, but we would also encourage you to reach out to the Senators representing your State, please click [here](#) to find the list of Senators in your State/Territory.

Question – What should I say to a politician?

Answer – . The best advice would be to highlight why the *National Organic Standard Bill 2024* is important to you and your business and provide examples on how the current regulatory framework has negatively impacted your business, or limited opportunities that may otherwise have been available.

Question – What is the best way to reach out to a politician?

Answer – Each MP and Senator can be reached in all or any of the following ways:

- Phone
- Email
- Face – to – face
- Social Media



- Community events run by the MP/Senator such as mobile offices.

Please follow the [link](#) to find the contact information for your local MP and/or Senator.

Question – Can I try and meet with politicians?

If you wish to attempt to have a meeting with a representative, we suggest that you contact their office directly to arrange a date and time, either via email or over the phone (it is not advised to arrive unannounced as they typically have busy schedules).

Alternatively, you may wish to look for any mobile offices and other meet your local member at local events to raise the issue then.

Question – What if I write a letter or an email and get no response?

Answer – Similarly to businesses, political parties are very structured which means correspondence from members of the public often has to go through different areas (Department officials if you've written to the Minister, the Ministers office if you have written to your local MP/Senator etc). If you have not received a response we would suggest waiting two weeks before following up.

Question – What if they still don't respond?

Answer – If there is still no response after your follow up then reach out to the ODG so that industry representatives are aware of any lack of response so that they can reach out to them as well.

Please see below the list of webpages for each Organic Development Group (member:

Australian Certified Organic (ACO): <https://aco.net.au/Pages/Contact/ContactUs.aspx>

Australian Organic Limited (AOL): <https://austorganic.com/about-us/contact/>

Bio-Dynamic Research Institute (BDRI): <https://www.demeter.org.au/contact.php>

Certified Organic Biodynamic Western Australia (COBWA):
<https://www.cobwa.com.au/Sys/PublicProfile/SendEmail/76309445>

National Association for Sustainable Agriculture Australia (NASAA):
<https://nasaaorganic.org.au/contact-nasaa/>

NASAA Certified Organic: <https://ncocertifiedorganic.com.au/nco-contact/>

Organic and Regenerative Investment Co-operative (ORICOOP):
<https://organicinvestmentcooperative.com.au/contact/>

Organic Food Chain (OFC): <https://organicfoodchain.com.au/contact/>

Southern Cross Certified (SXC):
<https://www.sxcertified.com.au/Pages/About/MeetTheTeam.aspx#contact>

Question – What if the government doesn't accept the *National Organic Standard Bill 2024*?



Answer – If the government doesn't accept the bill in the House of Representatives, it will be returned to the Senate until such a time that it can be debated again. This will give stakeholders who support the Bill the opportunity to speak in favour of the bill in the months leading up to the 2025 election.