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**Website:** [www.kurdishlobbyaustralia.com](http://www.kurdishlobbyaustralia.com)

**13<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**Attention:**

The Honourable Acting President  
The Honourable Prime Minister  
The Honourable Parliamentary Speaker

**Mr Masoud Barzani**  
**Mr Nechirvan Barzani**  
**Dr Yousif Mohammed Sadiq**

**Cc:**

Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
KRG Representative in Australia

**Mr Qubad Talabani**  
**Mr Falah Mustafa Bakir**  
**Mr Haval Dasko Syan**

**Dear Excellencies,**

**Re: Request for the urgent reactivation of Kurdistan Parliament**

Kurdish Lobby Australia is a non-partisan not-for-profit incorporated association in Australia that works for the people of the Kurdistan regions of Iraq, Iran, Turkey and Syria. We wish to express our deep concern about the deactivation of the Kurdish Parliament since October 2015, the lack of discussion in refining the constitution of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) and the lack of clarity about the status of the disputed territories in the lead up to a referendum on independence to be held on 25 September 2017 in the KRI and disputed territories.

As a matter of urgency we ask for:

- The immediate reactivation of parliament;
- A refinement of the Kurdistan constitution in preparation for a vote, and identification of when this vote will be held e.g. at the time of the referendum or when elections are held for the Kurdistan Parliament in November;
- A negotiated settlement on the status of the disputed territories, ideally before the referendum on independence or on the day of the referendum the people in the disputed territories could be asked 'Do you want to join the Kurdistan Region?';
- The strengthening of an independent judiciary.

We consider addressing these matters would help legitimise the referendum on independence and ensure future justice, power and resource sharing between provinces and districts and between the Kurdish majority and ethno-religious minorities in the KRI.

If these matters are not addressed in the near future we believe the referendum will not achieve the best, most accurate results and the long-held dream of Kurdistan becoming a peaceful, democratic and prosperous country will be critically undermined.

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We make these requests as we, like tens of millions of people from Kurdistan and the friends of Kurdistan, sincerely wish the Kurdistan Regional Government every success in serving its people and making the most of this window of opportunity to address the many challenges on the path to statehood.

Kurdish Lobby Australia looks forward to your response on these matters.

**Yours Sincerely,**

**Zirian Fatah**  
KLA Co-chair, President

**Dr. Gina Lennox**  
KLA Co-chair, Public Officer