



Brief Notes

Seminar on Iran organised by the Australian-Kurdish Association of Human Rights at Queensland Parliament House on Saturday 8 June 2019

Claire Moore

Labor. Elected to the Senate for Queensland 2001; Re-elected 2007, 2013 and 2016. Shadow Minister for Women from 2013 – 2016; Shadow Minister for Carers from 2013 to 2016; Shadow Minister for Communities from 2013 to 2016;

Manager of Opposition Business in the Senate from 2013 to 2016. Shadow Minister for International Development and the Pacific from 2016 to 2019.

Very good friends with Laurie Ferguson.

Involved with PMOI in Sydney. One of five parliamentarians lobbying for Iranian refugees in Camp Ashraf KRI. Not sure how Australia-Iran HR Dialogue will work out. Says politicians on all sides are more concerned about rising in power than asking questions from the floor, speaking out, etc

Suggestions

- Get five parliamentarians – important to be from both the House of Representatives and Senate – to support questions from the floor and pass motions.
- Get Australian Parliamentarians to talk to EU counterparts interested in Iran/Kurdish issues.
- All Kurds need to meet with their local federal parliamentarian and tell them what they are concerned about back home. Too often their representative is ignorant of the problems. They have to be informed. e.g. IRGC money laundering and profiteering from Iranians sending money to Iran in Melbourne.

Bahar Saheli

Works for Not-For-Profit-Organisation co-ordinating new arrivals in Adelaide. Many Yezidi families are arriving and being settled in Mount Gambier.

- Involved in Adelaide Kurdish Youth Society (see Facebook page) which organised big Newroz with fire – funded by local council – for three years in a row. Attracted four to five thousand people- Kurd and non-Kurd.

No national healthcare system in Iran. Kolbar video shocking. Hengaw – Kurdistan Human Rights Network - only organisation that gets involved re Kolbar. Injuries are not treated because kolbar cannot afford doctor or



medicines. Horse and donkeys get shot. Families of injured or dead kolbars get no help from the government – they must rely on extended family.

Andrew Bartlett

Chosen by the Parliament of Queensland in 1997 to represent that State in the Senate. Elected to the Senate for Queensland 2001. Defeated at general elections 2007. Declared elected 2017 as a Senator for Queensland by the High Court of Australia after L Waters disqualified under section 44 (i) of the Constitution). Resigned 27.8.2018.

Suggestions

- Every Kurd must keep their parliamentary representative and other members of the community (e.g. NGOs, business people) informed about the issues.
- Hook issues of concern onto other topical issues
- Remind, inform and update parliamentarians so issues stay in the mind of these individuals.
- Get parliamentarians to ask questions from the floor and pass motions. Much goes on behind closed doors in committees.