

## MEDIA RELEASE



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### **Senate inquiry to explore smarter approach to crime**

**ANTaR welcomes the passage of a motion for a parliamentary inquiry into Justice Reinvestment as a milestone in the campaign to reduce Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander imprisonment rates.**

“Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are amongst the most over-incarcerated peoples in the world. Justice Reinvestment offers a framework to turn the tide on imprisonment rates, and build safer and healthier communities”, said Jacqueline Phillips, National Director.

Justice Reinvestment is an innovative fiscal framework involving a shift in the focus of criminal justice spending from prisons to prevention.

“International experience highlights the potential for Justice Reinvestment to address unsustainable growth in the prison population and prevent crime.”

Along with key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak bodies, ANTaR wrote to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Reference Committee in October requesting an inquiry into the potential application of Justice Reinvestment in Australia.

“We are delighted that Parliament has responded to the call for this important and timely inquiry, and hope it paves the way for the emergence of a new and innovative approach to crime and community safety.”

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**More information about ANTaR’s justice campaign is available at:**

<http://antar.org.au/campaigns/justice-campaign>