**STOP THE NDIS AMENDMENT BILL - PRIOITISE AUTHENTIC CO-DESIGN AND INCLUSIVE PRACTICES WITH URGENCY**

**Disability Resources Centre, representing a diverse community of people with disability from across Victoria, is calling for the National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment Bill to be shelved.**

People with disabilities are gravely concerned that the NDIS Amendment Bill (Getting the NDIS Back on Track No 1) 2024 currently before Parliament does not offer adequate protections to participants in the scheme, nor does it represent the positive step forward they had hoped for.

With this bill the concept of “reasonable and necessary supports” will be abandoned. There is no clear process for review and appeal. With the passing of this bill, some people will be forced off the NDIS before the promised foundational supports are in place. Power and control will be shifted away from people with disabilities towards the NDIA and the minister. Extensive amendments are to be determined by ministerial rules or determinations, rather than being open to the public scrutiny they deserve.

The Government had promised that authentic co-design and inclusive practices would be at the heart of this process. This has not been delivered. Instead, the proposals have bred fear, uncertainty and distrust. People with disabilities must lead the way in designing and implementing any changes to the NDIS. This is the only way we can evolve an NDIS that will be fair, economical, inclusive and safe.

People with disabilities and their representative organisations from across Australia have responded to the proposals presented in the NDIS Amendment Bill with opposition and concern, and we now call on all members of our Parliament to vote against this bill.

For further information please contact:

Ally Scott, DRC / ally@drc.org.au / 0452 124 84