MEDIA RELEASE
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FEDS STEP IN WHERE NT GOVERNMENT FAILS TO ACT

"It's a sad day for the Northern Territory when the Australian Government makes the first move in responding to the report into child sexual abuse in NT Aboriginal communities", says Loraine Braham, Independent Member for Braitling.

"The NT Government should have responded immediately to the report, instead of leaving it until August".

Mrs Braham said the report required strong action and strong measures but the initiative has been taken away from the NT and this reflects badly on the government as well as the parliament.

"Did government members urge the Chief Minister to show leadership and react immediately to the report? Were they comfortable with her response?".

"The Chief Minister now must announce that the government will co-operate fully with the Australian Government to protect these young children".

"In recent years I introduced amendments to the Bail Act and the Sentencing Act to address issues relating to abuse of children and the government rejected these changes".

"All members of the government need to search their consciences and ask themselves if they could have done something sooner to avert this action by the Australian Government".

"It is a lesson to the NT Government that they must take the issue of child abuse seriously and act swiftly."

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