



MEDIA RELEASE

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Perrett appalled by calls for hijab ban

Federal Member for Moreton Graham Perrett today condemned calls for the hijab to be banned in shops and banks.

Mr Perrett said most Australians would be disgusted with the comments from Queensland Retail Traders and Shopkeepers Association's Scott Driscoll.

"It is simply outrageous to suggest that cultural or religious clothing is a security risk," he said.

"At school I was taught by nuns and lived near a convent and the idea of asking them also to remove their veils is equally preposterous and offensive.

"These kind of misguided comments do nothing more than breed suspicion and fear in some sections of the community.

"Modern Australia is a proud multicultural community, rich in cultural and religious diversity.

"Just as all Australians enjoy a fundamental right to religious freedom, we must also live up to our shared responsibility to promote understanding and tolerance.

"I am the patron of the Southwest Chamber of Commerce and I've been advised by President Graeme Johnson that the chamber has had no contact from any members concerned about the hijab."

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