

Stripped of citizenship: PM unveils tough new terror laws



Scott Morrison will take the new laws to parliament before Christmas. Picture: Brendan Esposito/AAP

Richard Ferguson, Reporter, An hour ago November 22, 2018

Scott Morrison will push for anyone convicted of a terrorism offence to be stripped of citizenship no matter how long they have been sentenced.

The Prime Minister will introduce legislation in the next sitting fortnight of parliament to remove citizenship on any terrorism offence, as well as new temporary exclusion orders for overseas fighters.

“There will be no condition on the length of sentence, they would only need to be convicted of a terrorist offence,” he told reporters in Sydney.

“It currently requires near the a sentence of imprisonment of six years. We will be removing that requirement, It will only be if they are convicted of a terrorist offence.

“The current wording of the law, we believe it is unrealistic and needs to reflect the genuine threat that has been posed by those engaged in this activity.”

Mr Morrison also confirmed reports today that, under proposed legislation, the Home Affairs Minister would be allowed to strip citizenship from anyone who could obtain citizenship from another country. “The standard by which

the minister will be determining issues of dual citizenship will be changed, to make sure the Minister will only need to be reasonably satisfied that a person would otherwise have another citizenship,” he said “Which is a change from the standard existing today.”

Mr Morrison also announced that he would pursue temporary exclusion orders, similar, to Great Britain, which would impose conditions on overseas combatants returning to Australia from conflict zones like Syria.

— More to come. Richard Ferguson, Reporter, Melbourne