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Upper House to investigate Cardinal Pell stem-cell warning. 15/06/2007. ABC News Online

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Upper House to investigate Cardinal Pell stem-cell warning

The Greens say they have been successful in a bid to have the New South Wales Upper House Privileges Committee investigate whether recent comments made by the Catholic Archbishop of Sydney constitute contempt of parliament.

Last week, Cardinal George Pell warned MPs that there would be consequences if they voted in favour of a bill that allowed therapeutic cloning.

The Greens MP, Lee Rhiannon, says the comments were inappropriate and will now be fully investigated.

"Cardinal Pell clearly has a right like everybody does to enter into the political debate, but he took it one step further," she said.

"He brought people's religious life [into the debate], and in this case MPs religious life, and implied that there could be changes there."

"Some people saw that as a threat and that is why the Greens believe this matter needs to be investigated."

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