
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 5 July 2021 7:26 PM
To: Ninderry Electorate Office
Cc: Community Support and Services Committee; Minister for Communities and Housing
Subject: To Community Support and Services Committee (CC my local MP): Submission on the Housing Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 and the Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation (Tenants' Rights) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021

Dear Daniel Purdie MP,

Dear the Community Support and Services Committee, cc my local MP -

I'd like to comment on both the Housing Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 and the Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation (Tenants' Rights) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to share something with you: a snapshot of what it's like to rent in Queensland.

My husband unexpectedly suddenly passed away 2 months ago. We lived on my husbands Veterans disability from the US. I lost my job 1 1/2 yrs ago and not many jobs for 66 yr olds. the house we rent for past 8 yrs is going to be lived in by owners. Rents in whole sunshine coast have gone up so much i cant afford rent and life expenses! My daughter moved in with me to help but we cant find any 2 bedroom under \$500 anywhere in Coolum or Maroochydore which is whete daughter works. If we live too far away she will use her salary just for petrol back and forth much less help with rent! Its crazy what people are asking gor rents now vs what cost was even a year ago! Grieving and homeless soon. Family is in US, cant come here, i cant afford to go there. this has been home for 21 yrs! we are dual citizens so Coolum has been home this whole time. Losing home and husband too much to bare. Plz help [ADD YOUR EXPERIENCES AS A RENTER HERE]

In its current form, the Housing Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 will do little to improve my situation as one of the 1.8 million renters in Queensland. While this bill may be palatable to the real estate lobby, it completely disregards my experience as a renter.

While I'm pleased that the Housing Legislation Amendment Bill includes positive provisions for renters experiencing domestic and family violence, it contains little other reforms of substance for renters.

I urge the Queensland Government to take this opportunity to amend this bill and to implement real rental reforms that will make renting in Queensland affordable, secure and fair.

It's crucial that rental reforms in Queensland include:

- A genuine end to 'no grounds' evictions – providing tenants with long-term security in their homes without the risk of an unfair eviction at the end of their lease
- Allowing tenants to make minor modifications, like hanging picture frames or installing furniture safety anchors
- A real ban on rent bidding – banning agents and property owners from accepting amount above the advertised rent for a property
- Expanding minimum standards to include ventilation, cleanliness and insulation
- Stopping unreasonable rent increases by tying rent increases to general inflation (CPI)
- Ensuring prospective tenants have fair and honest information about the property
- Banning inappropriate or discriminatory questions by lessors

- Make it easier for tenants to have pets – by flipping the onus on property owners/agents to demonstrate why it's unreasonable for a tenant to have pet

These provisions are included in the Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation (Tenants' Rights) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021. I urge the government to either support the Tenants' Rights Bill, or amend its own bill to provide real protections for renters.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the sender.