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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 5 July 2021 10:23 PM  
**To:** Maiwar Electorate Office  
**Cc:** Community Support and Services Committee; thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au; communitiesandhousing@ministerial.qld.gov.au  
**Subject:** Pet friendly rentals Submission on the Housing Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 and the Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation (Tenants' Rights) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021

Dear Michael Berkman MP,

Dear Committee

I seek to support a change in particular towards making more pet friendly accommodation in Queensland. As a person who is deeply attached to my animals it's extremely distressing trying to find suitable rentals.

Just recently I have been approved for a lease with approval for my two indoor cats of 8yrs. I signed my lease of 12 months over a month ago and moved in over a month ago. Today I received an email stating body corporate has refused my application for my pets and I must remove my pets & seek alternative accommodation. They are two indoor cats and as a person with ocd I am very neat. I was given no other reason, my application contained my cats, the leasing agent, my lease and owners all gave approval and I also received acknowledgement of my animals being allowed in email and SMS communications 3 times before signing the lease with my cats on it.

Now I will not give up my pets as they are all I have & have to go through a process that is extremely painful although I did everything right.

The current laws give me little leg to stand on. I just paid revivalist, bond, bond cleaners for my last place & furnished this apartment. Lockdowns have put financial strain and now I have this stress. This is just my personal & most recent problem with the current pet laws for renters in qld.

I really hope things can change soon as pets bring a purpose and meaning to many people's lives especially those with no one else.

Thank you for your time

Please find my submission the Housing Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 (The Bill).

The Bill fails to meet its key stated objectives. In particular it fails to ensure that vulnerable community members are supported to sustain tenancies. It also fails to remove the ability of lessors to end tenancies without grounds.

I want to see the following changes in the Bill.

**NO UNFAIR EVICTIONS.** The grounds to end a tenancy, for 'end of a fixed term', must be removed as a matter of priority before the legislation is passed. As it is, the Bill will increase the reasons why renters can be evicted at no fault.

**ALLOW MINOR MODIFICATIONS.** Being able to personalise and make safe my home is an important reform which should be included. The Bill must allow renters to undertake minor health, safety, accessibility and security modifications without prior approval, and minor amenity and personalisation changes with a short notification.

**MAKE IT EASIER FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE.** I support the government's proposals around domestic and family violence but they must also include the ability to install security measures without prior consent. This is a vital safety protection for people experiencing DFV.

**LET RENTERS CHOOSE TO KEEP PETS.** The Bill will go some way to support pets but they will still see renters with pets vetted out at application time, and allow conditions where the average dog or cat must live outside. The Bill must be changed to start with an assumption that renters can keep pets if they choose; require the lessor to seek orders to restrict pets if there is a dispute, and declare any previous pet conditions upfront.

We need real change for renters that brings stability and the ability to make a place our home.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]