
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 12 July 2021 10:31 PM
To: South Brisbane Electorate Office
Cc: Community Support and Services Committee; thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au; communitiesandhousing@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Subject: Submission on the Housing Legislation review and bills

Dear Amy MacMahon MP,

Dear Committee

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Besides the text below, I am also bitterly disappointed in Labor going against the original consultation reports recommendations.

I'm quite angry at the comments that some proposals on the table are against the human right of people to own their own home. This is far from the case and demonstrates how far Labor have gone from their own values. You are valuing peoples investments at the expense of affordability, health, security and safety of many renters. Furthermore, house owners already own their own home, the rentals are usually their second of subsequent investments, and therefore does not interfere with owning their primary home.

I am also disappointed you missed the opportunity to improve social, employment, affordability, GHG reduction and economic development options of including energy efficiency minimum standards (especially if this could be linked and included in the COVID recovery package). The original consultation stated t was too expensive for landlords. With appropriate implementation plans and timelines, they have time an opportunity to update. Poor quality housing should be removed from the market (as it is in the EU), and this reasoning only leads to a transfer of wealth from low income households to home owners.

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.

[REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]