

Your Ref: N/A
Enquiry Phone: [REDACTED]
File No: [REDACTED]
Document Reference: [REDACTED]



10 December 2015

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Research Director
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Dear Sir/Madam

HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2015 - FAST FOOD LABELLING & DISCLOSING INFORMATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH REASONS

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the *Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2015*.

On behalf of Logan City Council, the *Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2015* has been reviewed and the following comments are provided.

The expansion of the existing food labelling requirements under the *Food Act 2006* to include the requirements for the display of nutritional information by fast-food chains, snack-food and drinks chains, café chains and supermarkets to display nutritional information in response to the increase in obesity in the community is supported. It is understood that the statewide menu labelling will require larger food outlets to display nutritional information to assist consumers to make an informed and healthier fast-food choice. It is noted however that smaller independent food businesses would be largely impacted if the menu labelling was expanded to smaller food businesses in the future and many of these business operators would find it cost prohibitive or require significant support.

The current provisions of the *Food Act 2006* includes offence provisions for the disclosure of confidential information to the public even where it is considered reasonably necessary for public health and safety reasons. This year, Queensland Health was unable to issue warnings to the public to not consume certain brands of eggs known to be linked with outbreaks of salmonella. Council officers have worked closely with officers from Queensland Health on foodborne illness outbreaks and have reported feeling equally restricted to protect members of the public from potential health risks. As such, the proposed amendment provisions to allow the Chief Health Officer or other suitably qualified and delegated officers within Queensland Health to disclose confidential information in certain circumstances where disclosure is considered necessary to prevent or reduce the possibility of serious danger to public health is also supported.

Should you have any questions, I can be contacted directly on [REDACTED] or alternatively please contact Claire Moffat, Environmental Health Program Leader on [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ricardo Martello".

Ricardo Martello
Manager, Environment and Sustainability
(on behalf of Chris Rose, Chief Executive Officer)

