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Submission to the Health and Community Services Committee

Pertaining to the Racing and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012

I received notification on Saturday 10 November 2012 in relation to the above Legislation and have not had time to fully digest the many changes now being proposed to the Racing Act 2002 as amended.

The Racing Amendment Bill of 2010 introduced by the then Labour Government saw the amalgamation of the three codes of Racing in Queensland. Out of this legislation came the formation of Racing Queensland Limited as the control body for the three codes of Racing, and removal of the three independent Control Bodies of Racing in Queensland.

In my opinion, if asked many in the Greyhound Industry would question whether the amalgamation was a good idea, after all as the minor code in the big pool of racing, it could be interpreted, Greyhound Racing had little to gain, but a lot to lose.

Greyhound Racing now hopes with the introduction of this Amendment Bill, it will be a step forward to a better future for the Industry, with the vision to allow the code to firstly control its own destiny, by providing strategic direction to its participants, Industry cohesion by consultation, and design and implementation of forward planning objectives of the varied inputs required to modernise the Code.

Racing in Queensland must recognise there are three codes in the boat and all must row in the same direction assisting each other on the journey to the winning post. All this can be achieved in consultation with the Captain of the boat: the Minister for Racing.

In reading the Explanatory Notes provided with the Racing and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012, I refer to the following chapter on page 13/14 headed: **Clause 73 (Directors of Racing Queensland)**

Clause 73 inserts new section 446 which cancels the approval held by Racing Queensland at midnight on the day before the commencement:

Commencement of what?

The amendments to the Racing act will not remove the directors of Racing Queensland Limited from office. They will remain as directors of Racing Queensland Limited until the Company is deregistered:

When is this anticipated to take place?

However, from the date that Racing Queensland ceases to be a control body, and all assets transferred to the All Codes board, they will not be paid director fees.

What remuneration will they be paid?

Further

As the current Directors of Racing Queensland were appointed in 2012 to fill casual vacancies that resulted from the resignation of directors, they are appointed only until the next Annual General meeting.

The Annual General Meeting of Racing Queensland Limited for the Financial Year 2011/2012 will be held on Friday 16 November 2012.

After 16 November 2012 does the tenure of the interim four Directors cease?

I would be pleased if you could provide clarification to my questions. I thank you for the opportunity to submit my thoughts.

Stephanie Houghton