

Electoral Laws (Restoring Electoral Fairness) Amendment Bill 2025

Submission No: 061

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I would particularly like to address the issue of donations from Property Developers or similar corporate bodies (including Trade Unions).

It seems to me, as in many instances in society (including parliamentary representation!), that the views of the leadership of such bodies is often only very remotely connected to the views of the members of those bodies and there are far too few opportunities for individual members to put forward their views on many matters, including those of political donations.

I therefore suggest that the proposed legislation be amended to disallow corporate donations in any form except where all the individual members of those bodies have been specifically asked if they agree to donations of specific amounts to specific political parties or candidates, with donations only being allowed to proceed where the majority of the individual members have indicated their agreement.

Alternatively, on this particular issue, given the political leadership / citizenship disconnect noted above, I believe it would be prudent to put this issue to the electorate as a whole in a referendum and let the people of Queensland decide on this important issue in our democracy. Or, as a less direct alternative, the government could adopt the core of the proposal noted in current e-Petition 4252-25, and allow the people the opportunity to veto this legislation if it is initially opposed by the numbers outlined there (net opposition being 1000 times the parliamentary majority passing the legislation).