From: John Ramsey

To: Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Subject: Unjust/Unfair Body Corporate Levies

Date: Tuesday, 16 October 2012 6:32:11 PM

Body Corporate & Community Management & Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 Submission 128

Dear Mr Hopper - LACSC

I am writing to express my views on how unfair and unjust the proposed changes to Body Corporate Levies. I cannot believe that anyone other than Penthouse owners could agree that this is a fair and just system. I am 58 years old and purchased a 2 bedroom unit at the Pinnacle Building in Surfers Paradise 4 years ago. The most important factor in deciding on a unit was the Body Corporate fees. I am working to pay my mortgage and I had to strongly consider what Body Corporate Levies were and if I could afford to pay them. I am sure the Penthouse owners did exactly the same, considered if they were happy with levies and that those fees were within their budget before signing on the dotted line. When I made my decision to buy, I was never warned that the goal posts could shift and that the levies could be changed in any way or I would not have entered into the purchase. It seems so unfair, unjust and unbelievable that the choice has been taken away from so many people, many of who have been under enormous stress for the last couple of years as their futures look very grim if these proposed changes go ahead.

If the proposed changes come into place, selling our units with huge Body Corporate Levies leaves us in no man's land — who will want them??? Renting out our units and paying the huge Body Corporate Levies still leaves us in no man's land and with not enough money left to rent somewhere less expensive to live ourselves.

I understand that if rules need to change for whatever the reason, the changes should be going forward. In the case of the Body Corporate Levies, going forward, I am sure common sense would quickly come into play, with the construction of units all being equal in size otherwise there is no way the units would ever be sold.

Surely the welfare of the majority should be taken into consideration.

Please stop the proposed changes to the Body Corporate Levies

Yours faithfully

Clare Ramsey