

From: [Geoff Bonney](#)
To: [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)
Subject: Submission - Local Government Electoral (Implementing Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017
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Acting Committee Secretary
Legal affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Queensland Parliament Legal Affairs and Community Safety committee.

The draft legislation does not have satisfactory penalty provisions for such a serious breach of trust.
Penalties should include exclusion from being a parliamentarian and a hefty financial fine.

If the proposed legislation is accepted it will still allow developers to give donations legally because of the loop holes in identifying developers.
Redlands City is a great example of this where an Age Care operator who develops property and has given donations to a councillor who did not declare the donation and voted on their development and would still not be subject to this new proposed law.
This developer would be classified as an age Care provider although they do their own developments and would not fit within the proposed guide lines and could continue to fund councillors.

We see in many councils where councillors vote on developers projects where the developer has given such councillors a donation. Gold Coast council is a prime example where 30 times one councillor has voted for projects where she has received a donation.
This proposed legislation needs to be tightened to stop this process of real or perceived conflict of interest.

The matter of influencing decisions by other councillors or employees also needs to be tightened as currently in Redlands council we have councillors meeting in non public work shops and other non public meetings which would not be covered by the proposed legislation but allows influence from councillors not able to vote in council meetings for donors projects where there is a conflict of interest.

The new legislation should also be amended to ensure Donors to councillors should also be excluded from council committees. In Redlands council it is well documented that we have had a secret committee comprising developer donors who secretly made recommendations to council.

Kind Regards,

Geoff Bonney

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