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Your ref: A513292

Queensland Ombudsman
ABN 257 657 579 00
Level 18, 53 Albert Street
Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 3314
Brisbane Q 4001
P 07 3005 7000
1800 068 908
(outside Brisbane)
F 07 3005 7067
E ombudsman@ombudsman.qld.gov.au
W ombudsman.qld.gov.au

SENSITIVE

16 December 2019

Mr Peter Russo MP
Chair
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
By email: lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Russo

Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in respect of the Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 (the Bill).

I will restrict my comments to that section of the Bill which relates to the *Ombudsman Act 2001*.

Part 25 of the Bill (clause 156) proposes amendment to s 86 of the Ombudsman Act to allow me to delegate a decision under s 66 of the *Human Rights Act 2019* to an appropriately qualified officer of the Ombudsman Office.

I am supportive of the amendment which was included in the Bill at my request. It will facilitate the effective and efficient operation of the Office when dealing with complaints about matters involving alleged breaches of human rights and requiring decisions under the Human Rights Act.

I will be pleased to provide the committee with any further information it may require to consider the Bill.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Clarke", written over a vertical line.

Phil Clarke
Queensland Ombudsman