

# Local Government (Empowering Councils) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

**Submission No:** 036

**Submission By:** Central Highlands Regional Council

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Mr James Lister MP  
Chair  
Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee  
Parliament House  
George St  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

**Email: [LGSBCSC@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:LGSBCSC@parliament.qld.gov.au)**

Dear Mr Lister

***Local Government (Empowering Councils) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025***

Central Highlands Regional Council broadly supports the proposed changes in the Bill except for:

**Clause 62 Amendment of section 155 (Disqualification because of other high office)**  
that a person cannot be a councillor while the person is an electoral candidate; and that a person automatically stops being a councillor when the person becomes an electoral candidate.

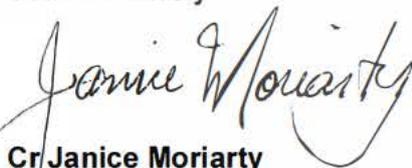
Council does not agree with the proposed changes to automatically remove a councillor from office upon nomination as a candidate for the Legislative Assembly – noting the *Local Government Act 2009* requires a councillor to take leave without pay for the duration of the period for which the councillor is a candidate for election as a member of the Legislative Assembly; and provides for automatic disqualification of a councillor who becomes a 'government member', that is, a member of a Parliament of the Commonwealth or a State (including Queensland); or a councillor of a local government of another State.

**Clause 66 – Amendment of section 169(a) (Councillor training)**  
Our council disagrees with the proposed amendment of Section 169(a) (Councillor training). Our view is that all councillors, new and returning, are to complete the mandatory training.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Bill.

Please let me know if you need any further information on this matter.

Yours sincerely



**Cr Janice Moriarty**  
**Mayor**  
**Central Highlands Regional Council**