



# **Residents Assoc. South** Sunshine Coast (reg IA145731)

*Beerburrum to Kawana & Hinterland to Caloundra.  
Formerly Caloundra City Ratepayers & Residents Association*

President: Ian Smyth 5491-9139, Vice Pres: John Smith ph 5493-2015  
Secretary/Treasurer; Peter Bryant, OAM 5437-7048 Research Officer Tony Barry 5491-3156;  
Executive: Pam Owens p5494-8493 ; Peter Ryan ph 5492-1333; Ian Colledge 5492-2727

7 October, 2012

*Our 18<sup>th</sup> Year*

**State Development,  
Infrastructure and Industry Committee  
Queensland Parliament  
Parliament House  
Brisbane QLD 4000**

**RECEIVED**

10 OCT 2012

STATE DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE  
AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

Dear Sir/Madam;

## **Re Sustainable Planning and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 (Qld)**

We write on behalf of our members concerning the proposed changes to the SPOLA Bill in relation to the awarding of costs in the Planning & Environment Court.

Our association believes this to be a most retrograde step and withdrawal of the right of Residents to express concern at developments that are not in the community interest and a "sop" to the development industry at the expense of the community.

We can appreciate that there may be instances where LEP challengers may be initiated out of "spite" or due to ignorance.

In this respect we suggest that for a resident to oppose an application in the Land & Development Court, that a preliminary hearing be held at which time a judicial officer would decide if the applicant would not be required to pay the other sides costs in a loss or, that the judicial officer would rule that they may be required to pay the other sides costs in a loss. The applicant could then decide (if the latter was the decision) to proceed or not to proceed.

The residents did not cast their vote at the last State Election with the expectation that their basic planning rights would be revoked.

By copy of this letter to our local members, The Hon Jarrod Bleijie and The Hon Mark McArdle we request that they advise our members of their stand on this issue.

Regards,

*Peter Bryant* OAM

[secretary@residentsassocsouth.com.au](mailto:secretary@residentsassocsouth.com.au)

[www.residentsassocsouth.com.au](http://www.residentsassocsouth.com.au)

All mail to the Secretary PO Box 3765 Caloundra DC Qld 4551

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