




Speech by
Grace Grace

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Thursday, 25 August 2011

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL BILL

 **Ms GRACE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (4.25 pm): I rise to support the Local Government Electoral Bill 2011 and in particular want to make a few comments on the amendments to the Mixed Use Development Act 1993. This act was passed in 1993 and covers eight mixed use development situations around the state. There are six others around the state, but in particular there are two in my electorate—Cathedral Place and Central Brunswick in Brisbane. Quite clearly it has been found that there are provisions under this legislation that do require modernising and there is a review of reform packages currently being developed. I want to welcome a number of packages of amendments to the Mixed Use Development Act which are responding to pressing equity issues raised by lot owners. I want to thank those constituents who have come to see me in relation to this matter. They have taken their time and I have assured them that the government is acting and I very much welcome the amendments brought forward by the Deputy Premier and Attorney-General today.

The complex and multitiered body corporate structure as set out in 1993 does not adequately support contemporary community living. Stakeholders have shared concerns that the Mixed Use Development Act may not reflect commercial realities and result in decision making that is not in the collective best interests of lot owners and the broader community. These mixed use development communities need more confidence in the equity and transparency of body corporate management and decision making in the interests of the whole community, and that is what this bill is delivering. Consequently, this interim package of amendments provides some parity with the Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997. The new requirements of the bodies corporate governed by the Mixed Use Development Act will include direction on a number of things that are included in the body corporate and management act such as the appointment of proxies, auditing, a number of ways of conducting voting arrangements, nomination and election of executive committees. The package also introduces mixed use development communities to principles of contemporary body corporate frameworks. This is a wonderful step in the right direction that I know my constituents are very much asking for, and I commend the bill to the House.