



Speech by

**Ian Walker**

**MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD**

Hansard Wednesday, 11 July 2012

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## **SUSTAINABLE PLANNING AMENDMENT REGULATION (NO. 2): DISALLOWANCE**

 **Mr WALKER** (Mansfield—LNP) (9.09 pm): I move—

That the Sustainable Planning Amendment Regulation (No. 2) of 2012, Subordinate Legislation No. 42 of 2012, tabled in the House on 17 February 2012, be disallowed.

Tonight I move to disallow the Sustainable Planning Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2012. The disallowance of this regulation will give local governments and communities a say in developments in their areas and put an end to uncertainty. The Sustainable Planning Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2012 was made, tabled and commenced on 17 February 2012, amending the Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009. This regulation was quietly announced just days before the caretaker provisions commenced. The regulation exempted existing schools and public hospitals in Queensland from development assessment against local planning schemes. No consultation occurred with local governments, the Local Government Association of Queensland or other stakeholders during the development of this regulation. In the *Mackay Daily Mercury* on 24 February 2012 a Bligh government spokesperson was quoted to have said—

Local governments' compulsive need to control every minute detail is strangling the ability for core community infrastructure to be developed.

Local governments and the Local Government Association of Queensland have been strongly critical of the former Bligh government's decision to exclude local governments and the community from the planning and approval process. One of the fundamental tenets of this government is to give back powers to local governments that have been eroded over time by the former Labor government. The previous Labor government did not undertake any investigations of unintended consequences and no information was provided to local governments or other stakeholders on the effects or commencement. There is a lack of clarity amongst stakeholders about the regulation, including its commencement date and whether it is currently in effect. Consequently, there is also a lack of clarity about local government's ability to issue infrastructure charges notices.

Disallowing this regulation will reinstate local government and community involvement in the planning and approval process for existing schools and public hospitals and reinstate a public consultation process. Disallowing this regulation will prevent inconsistent approaches between existing schools and public hospitals, which are covered by the exemption, and new schools and public hospitals, which are not covered. In disallowing this regulation, we are delivering on yet another election commitment. I commend the motion to the House.