

Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) (Royalties and Cost of Living Relief) Amendment Bill 2022

Statement of Compatibility

Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the Human Rights Act 2019

In accordance with section 38 of the Human Rights Act 2019, I, Amy MacMahon, Member for South Brisbane, make this statement of compatibility with respect to the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) (Royalty and Cost of Living Relief) Amendment Bill 2022*.

In my opinion, the Bill is compatible with the human rights protected by the *Human Rights Act 2019* (HR Act). I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this statement. It serves to protect fundamental human rights.

Overview of the Bill

Australia's present inflation crisis is being caused by increasing profit margins according to ABS data, and not due to an overabundance or increase of money supply amongst workers and low to middle income Australians.¹ This has resulted in a decline in the real value of wages and support payments of more than 3.5%.² The inflation crisis has also coincided with a housing crisis that has seen rents increase more than 20% across Queensland in the last year, and as much as 30% in some parts.³

The cost of living crisis and opportunistic price hiking of corporations and landlords is jeopardising and eroding the human rights interests of low and middle income people.

1

<https://australiainstitute.org.au/post/profits-causing-inflation-in-australia-not-wages-european-central-bank-abs-data-reveal/>

<https://theconversation.com/profits-push-up-prices-too-so-why-is-the-rba-governor-only-talking-about-wages-185688>

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<https://australiainstitute.org.au/post/wpi-worst-real-wage-decline-this-century/#:~:text=%E2%80%99CThis%20represents%20the%20biggest%20destruction,are%20expected%20to%20fall%203.5%25.>

³ <https://sgmresearch.com.au/weekly-rents.php?region=qld-Brisbane&type=c&t=1>

The Bill provides financial relief for people by assisting their ability to stay in secure housing, afford food, and seek educational, economic, and cultural rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.⁴

increasing the royalties charged to gas producers on the sale of Queensland's natural resources, redistributing the record super-profits being made on Queensland's natural resources.

Human Rights Issues

Human rights relevant to the Bill

Poverty inherently jeopardises a person's human rights interests enshrined in the *Human Rights Act 2019* including the right to life, right to take part in public life, right to education, right to health services, and the cultural rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Conclusion

In my opinion, the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) (Royalty and Cost of Living Relief) Amendment Bill 2022* is compatible with human rights under the *Human Rights Act 2019* (Qld). There are no limitations on human rights, and indeed, if the human rights of everyday Queenslanders are to be supported, this Bill is necessary.

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<https://www.qhrc.qld.gov.au/your-rights/human-rights-law/cultural-rights-of-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples>