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Electoral Legislation (Political Donations) Amendment Bill 2018

<http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-committees/committees/EGC/inquiries/current-inquiries/ElectoralPolDonations2018>

To the committee:

Please accept this submission to the current inquiry. Truth be told, I think with you lot we are pushing the proverbial up hill!

I support the bill. The committee needs to consider the constitutional issues arising from McCloy v NSW and Unions NSW on this issue. The bill should enhance the equality of access to government, enhance the electoral system and work towards the prevention of corruption and not strengthen its arm.

I refer the committee to my recent submission to the LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL (IMPLEMENTING STAGE 1 OF BELCARRA) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2018 which was submission no.22 Link <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/committees/EGC/2018/LGElectoralStg1ofBel2018/submissions/022.pdf> .

I refer to everything I said in that submission and expand on it and incorporate it into this one. I support the bill. At p2 and 3 of that submission I demanded that the proposed ban on developer donations be expanded. I said

“ There are self evident reasons (especially in Townsville and NTH QLD) why such donations from property developers and others- such as those involved in the construction, ring roads/bridges or airport 2nd runway builders, fossil fuel. real estate , mining, arms, defence contracting, liquor or gambling industry business entities, pharmaceutical, waste/recycling , water infrastructure , pipe builders, layers or consulting engineers , tobacco industry business entity;- or from any other industry that would normally have contractual dealings with government at any level- should be banned.”

I refer the committee to recommendations 6 and 7 of the CCC’s Operation Belcarra Report :

“Recommendation 7 (p. 65)

That the Local Government Electoral Act be amended to deem that a gift and the source of the gift referred to in Recommendation 6 is at all times within the knowledge of the person or entity required to lodge a return under Part 6 and for the purpose of proving any offence against Part 9, Divisions 5–7.”

Given that the committee is made up of major parties to which all allegations of corruption have been directed towards I also refer you to the following electoral commissions donations links and a donations search engine that makes it easier to find donations archived on the Australian Electoral Commission site. Given that lobbyists have taken to making donations to get around prohibited donor laws, I give the links to Australian Lobbyist Registers so people can type them into the donor search engines aswell.

Australian lobbyist registers

<https://www.integrity.qld.gov.au/lobbyists/other-jurisdictions.aspx>

Donations sites

Democracy For Sale <http://democracyforsale.net/search-aec/> which can be checked off against the AEC search <https://periodicdisclosures.aec.gov.au/>

For QLD <https://disclosures.ecq.qld.gov.au/Map> and <https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/funding-and-disclosure/disclosure-returns/election-disclosure-returns>

Qld 2016 Council Elections Gift Register with late declarations and Logan Council donations as it relates to Townsville donors

https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/excel_doc/0005/45419/Gift-Register.xls

Qld Candidate Returns Previous candidate returns have been hidden on the www.ecq.qld.gov.au website . You have to type “candidate returns” into the site search box and those are only the ones that have been submitted . You cant find any others.

The [REDACTED] donation 28/4/2017 that previously appeared in a search on <https://disclosures.ecq.qld.gov.au/Map> . You will see below that a donation by [REDACTED] of 2k to the then Qld Treasurer [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (extracted below) was changed to make it look like he was never associated with it on the real-time site . I have written to him via his electorate office to explain himself but I fear I am being ignored...go figure ! And if you compare Line 257-273 of the gift register for 2016 , you will see the [REDACTED] donations to [REDACTED] appear on the real-time site as to LNP so it is disguised that he has an interest in Brisbane like Townsville , Logan and Ipswich .

| | | | | |
|------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | 28- 04- 2017 | PO Box TOWNSVILLE 7315 Garbutt | \$2,000.00 |
|------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|

I note a new entry with a corresponding date saying :

| | | | | | |
|------------|--|------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| [REDACTED] | Australian Labor Party (State of Queensland) | 28-04-2017 | TOWNSVILLE | PO Box 7315 Garbutt | \$2,000.00 |
|------------|--|------------|------------|---------------------|------------|

2012 Townsville Council Election

<https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/funding-and-disclosure/disclosure-returns/election-disclosure-returns/2012-queensland-local-government-elections/townsville-city> see also the linked team returns

2016 Townsville Council Election

<https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/funding-and-disclosure/disclosure-returns/election-disclosure-returns/2016-local-government-quadrennial-elections/townsville-city-council> see also the gift register link above and the team returns , especially [REDACTED] Donations 2016 Townsville council elections :

[https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/62353/\[REDACTED\]](https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/62353/[REDACTED]) which discloses so many offences on the face of the Belcarra Report as it relates to others .

2016 Ipswich Council Election (as it relates to Townsville donors)

<https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/funding-and-disclosure/disclosure-returns/election-disclosure-returns/2016-local-government-quadrennial-elections/ipswich-city-council>

Further Townsville Mafia info here in comments and replies

<https://www.facebook.com/pat.coleman.90/posts/10156458884813447>

For NSW http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/fd/disclosure/view_disclosures

For Victoria <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-17/fact-check-victorias-political-donations-laws/9042818>

For Tasmania <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-02-12/fact-check-does-tasmania-have-weakest-political-donation-laws/9407872>

For South Australia <https://www.ecsa.sa.gov.au/parties-and-candidates/funding-and-disclosure-for-state-elections/funding-and-disclosure-portal>

For Western Australia <https://www.elections.wa.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/funding-and-disclosure>

For The Northern Territory

<http://www.ntec.nt.gov.au/FinancialDisclosure>ReturnsLodged/Pages/default.aspx>

For The Australian Capital Territory

https://www.elections.act.gov.au/funding_and_disclosure/financial_disclosure_returns

BUT , OF COURSE , YOU ALL KNOW WHERE THE BODIES ARE BURIED AND THATS WHY ALL THESE MATTERS HAVE TAKEN SO LONG!

THE DEVELOPER BAN , PUBLIC TENDERS AND LEGAL GYMNASTICS

You lot know exactly where your money has come from and what its for. If you didn't, logically you would have extended the developer ban to other areas....GOTCHYA!

All these donations are publically disclosed and publically available on government websites.

The ban on developer donations it seems does not apply to "construction companies" or anyone else applying for public funding or public tenders according to the parties on the face of the real-time site -backdated.

I am going to break this down. But I have given the links to where the donors can be located when using Townsville as an example- Democracy for sale, the 2012-16 council disclosures links and [REDACTED] Link, the real-time disclosures link and how to find old candidate returns.

I quoted , above, from my previous submission on the matters that should be covered by a ban

<http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/committees/EGC/2018/LGElectoralStg1ofBel2018/submissions/022.pdf> . Here are public tenders that have previous/ current political donors associated with them in the Townsville region and elsewhere, they include those that may have put in a tender or were speculating on an election outcome:

- The Brisbane Airport second runway, Haughton Bridge upgrade and the Townsville Utilities Upgrade . Associated donors : [REDACTED]
- The Burdekin to Townsville Water Pipeline. Associated donors : [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] has [REDACTED] as one of its subsidiaries. The [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are associated , [REDACTED] previously in [REDACTED] , type "pipe" into <http://www.democracyforsale.net/search-aec/> and [REDACTED] use the lobbyist [REDACTED] which can be found on that link too.
- Townsville Council sewerage pump station at Cranbrook, Associated Political donor : [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] .
- Townsville Council outsourced reports and research, Associated Political donor [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] SEE ALSO [REDACTED] Lobbying Firm [REDACTED] \$10k donation in the [REDACTED] Return . [REDACTED] Represents [REDACTED]

[https://au.linkedin.com/in/\[REDACTED\]](https://au.linkedin.com/in/[REDACTED])

- Townsville Stadium Construction Tender Associated Political donors : [REDACTED] , and companies associated with the directors
- Townsville Stadium steel Tender Associated Political donors: [REDACTED] steel in competition on the disclosures with [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] . 2 directors [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] . On [REDACTED] linkedin site [https://au.linkedin.com/in/\[REDACTED\]](https://au.linkedin.com/in/[REDACTED]) , its says he previously worked for [REDACTED] which comes up as a Liberal donor in democracy for sale .
- Townsville Stadium , [REDACTED] pushed it and thats self explanatory .
- The Townsville Stadium Hotel Project by [REDACTED] who donated \$5k in the [REDACTED] return.
- The proposed Townsville Battery Plant consortium has 2 donors associated so far [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
- Here is on that does not fit in with developers or construction, but de-construction and demolition ! In Townsville 2016 , [REDACTED] donated \$5000 to [REDACTED] . ([REDACTED] Declared on 30/6/16)
[https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/\[REDACTED\]](https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/[REDACTED])
[REDACTED] As it turned out they got approvals and contracts for the removal of many government owned buildings . They wanted to transport them to [REDACTED] and store them there . They also wanted to do it at least 6 times a year for other contracts. The Council objected and it went to court in 2014
[https://services.dsdip.qld.gov.au/appeals/documents/\[REDACTED\]](https://services.dsdip.qld.gov.au/appeals/documents/[REDACTED])
[REDACTED] They said it cost around \$30 000 to do a demolition and usually \$15 000 to do the transport . At Par 12 of the court filing above [REDACTED] said in part “The cost of storing these objects on urban industrial land would be cost-prohibitive. The cost of a movement is in the order of \$15,000”. Now , if you want to find what the council said you have to go to the Minutes 27/2/18
[https://www.townsville.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/\[REDACTED\]](https://www.townsville.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/[REDACTED])
[REDACTED] Given that the donation was to a team [REDACTED] aligned with the previous council majority [REDACTED] and the court matter and approvals were unresolved it seems “curious” why someone would donate to people opposing them.
- There are many more matters which stink including The Townsville “Hive” development involving political donors [REDACTED] (2012) [REDACTED] ,

██████████ who hid donations under the company Names ██████████ and ██████████ in the ██████████ return https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/██████████/██████████ . This was discovered by google-ing addresses and post office boxes . And yes that one return shows many offences according to the Belcarra Report. And the Townsville Stadium Hotel Project by ██████████ who donated \$5k in the ██████████ return .

Limitations of time for prosecutions

I refer the committee to my previous submission (linked above) to the stage 1 inquiry and incorporate it . At p7-8 I demanded getting rid of all time limits for prosecutions for electoral and corruption offences . I continue to demand it. That also means for historical offences. This is because people hide their wrongdoing and it takes a long time to uncover. 4 year terms mean there can be activity which takes place over a decade as a conspiracy within the meaning of the code .I also argued police have the power to investigate and charge those offences in their own right aswell. Even if time makes it difficult to get a conviction , investigations may uncover further evidence and people who cover up can be charged. Of particular relevance to the bill is the 1 year limitation in s52 of The Justices Act 1886 in relation to summary matters that applies to the Electoral Acts. There mentioned is also a 2 year limitation for some indictable matters .The Code sets out other limitations. A justice has the power under the Acts interpretation Act and the code to dismiss a matter for various reasons such as triviality or oppression, so ridding the law of the limitations for these offences should be to send a message that people cant run or hide and will eventually be caught and not allowed to end up being lobbyists.

I DEMAND A RETURN TO OPTIONAL PREFERENTIAL VOTING

In my previous submission to the stage 1 inquiry <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/committees/EGC/2018/LGElectoralStg1ofBel2018/submissions/022.pdf> at p 2 I said “*There is nothing stopping me from seeking further amendments to the electoral acts and this bill, to reintroduce **OPTIONAL PREFERENTIAL VOTING (OPV)**, as this is an omnibus bill. The reintroduction of **COMPULSORY PREFERENTIAL VOTING (CPV)** was deemed to be **corrupt by corruption buster Justice*** ██████████

In fact , its reintroduction seemed to be contemporaneous with consistent falling primary votes of the major parties and the introduction of full, and real time disclosure of donations in QLD over \$1000 . That is, to thwart a citizens ability to vote against people they deem to be corrupt.

*It would be rather stupid to claim on the one hand to be adopting the spirit of the CCC’s Operation Belcarra Report , yet on the other deny voters who have come into knowledge about it –to apply that knowledge at the ballot box by excluding candidates and exhausting votes. That is, unless the whole intent was or is to move the goal posts for electors. One must keep in mind that it has been proposed in “some quarters” to bring in **CPV** for council elections too. Those that support compulsory preferential voting at any level are deemed by me to be supporters of corruption , good ole’ Australian fascism and all other nefarious types that shouldn’t get votes let alone preferences.”*

In addition to that , I would like to add a quote in an extract from my submission Inquiry into and report on all aspects of the conduct of the 2016 Federal Election and matters related thereto - Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters

“Given that The Qld Parliament brought in compulsory preferential voting for state elections, thus taking away the ability of groups of citizens to exhaust votes against fascists, religious nutters, corrupt labor types and also mirror image coalition types, I demand that the federal law be amended to also “cover the field” in relation to voting at state, Territory and local elections to bring about or maintain optional preferential voting.

I note in Mr [REDACTED] submission (sub 30 I believe the current arrangements for party membership numbers suffice.) he also calls for optional preferential voting for the house of reps. To any reasonable observer ,all opposed to optional preferential voting are corrupt and undemocratic in that they refuse to allow people to say no by exhausting votes. The anger it stirs in me makes me say that “metaphorically speaking” [REDACTED] [REDACTED], as, if that was the policy of the major parties you could jump up and down all you want but you would either have to vote informal or hold your nose [REDACTED] and have them all say you 2 party preferred it that way regardless of whether it truly or honestly expressed your views as a citizen.”

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/pat-coleman/my-submission-inquiry-into-and-report-on-all-aspects-of-the-conduct-of-the-2016-/10155950704984759/>

Previous Inquiries links

The Qld Committee inquiry links and Acts as passed :

[Local Government Electoral \(Implementing Stage 1 of Belcarra\) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2018](https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/asmade/act-2018-009) <https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/asmade/act-2018-009>

[Local Government \(Councillor Complaints\) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2018](https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/asmade/act-2018-008)

<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/asmade/act-2018-008>

Report No. 4. 56th Parliament - Crime and Corruption and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

The committee tabled its report, No. 4, 56th Parliament – Crime and Corruption and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 on 15 March 2018. The Bill is yet to be debated in the Parliament.

<http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-committees/committees/LACSC/inquiries/current-inquiries/CCAOALBILL2018>

Report No. 7, 56th Parliament - Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 1 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

<http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-committees/committees/EGC/inquiries/past-inquiries/LGElectoralStg1ofBel2018>

Report No. 5, 56th Parliament - Local Government (Councillor Complaints) and Other
Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

<http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-committees/committees/EGC/inquiries/past-inquiries/LGCouncillorComplaints2018>

Pat Coleman

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]