

Queensland

# Ministerial and Other Office Holder Staff Bill 2010



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## Ministerial and Other Office Holder Staff Bill 2010

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## 2010

# A Bill

for

An Act to provide for the employment and conduct of staff of Ministers and other particular members of Parliament [s 1]

The Pa	arliament of Queensland enacts—	1
Part	1 Preliminary	2
1	Short title This Act may be cited as the <i>Ministerial and Other Office</i> <i>Holder Staff Act 2010</i> .	3 4 5
2	<b>Commencement</b> This Act commences on a day to be fixed by proclamation.	6 7
3	<b>Dictionary</b> The dictionary in the schedule defines particular words used in this Act.	8 9 10
4	<ul> <li>Main purposes</li> <li>The main purposes of this Act are— <ul> <li>(a) to provide for the employment of staff in the offices of particular members of the Legislative Assembly; and</li> <li>(b) to provide for the proper work performance and conduct of the staff members.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	11 12 13 14 15 16

## Part 2 Employment of staff members 17

5	Functions of staff member	18
	The functions of a staff member are the functions given to the	19
	staff member, under the staff member's contract of	20

[s 6]

	employment and by directions mentioned in section 14, to help the employing member to effectively discharge the employing member's duties.	1 2 3
	Examples of functions that may be given to a staff member—	4
	• providing advice	5
	• providing administrative support	6
	developing policy proposals	7
	• for a ministerial staff member, working with public sector units to implement government policies	8 9
	preparing communication materials	10
	liaising with stakeholders	11
Em	<b>ployment of ministerial staff member</b> The chief executive may, on the Premier's recommendation, employ a person as a staff member in the office of a stated Minister.	12 13 14 15
Em	ployment of staff member of Leader of the Opposition	16
	The chief executive may, on the recommendation of the Leader of the Opposition, employ a person as a staff member in the office of the Leader of the Opposition.	17 18 19
Em me	ployment of staff member of other non-government mber	20 21
(1)	This section applies to a non-government member, other than the Leader of the Opposition, who is—	22 23
	(a) the leader of a political party; or	24
	(b) an independent member.	25
(2)	The chief executive may, on the member's recommendation, employ a person as a staff member in the member's office.	26 27

6

7

### [s 9]

9	No	entit	lement to staffing of office	1		
	Sections 6 to 8 do not confer an entitlement on any member of the Legislative Assembly to have a staff member, or any particular number of staff members, employed in the office of the member of the Legislative Assembly.					
		Note	s—	6		
		1	Decisions about the employment of staff members depend on resources available to the chief executive for the purpose.	7 8		
		2	The level of need for the employment of a staff member for a non-government member mentioned in section 8 may be affected, among other matters, by whether the member has an increased workload because of the particular composition of the Legislative Assembly.	9 10 11 12 13		
10	Ba	sis o	femployment	14		
	(1)		employment of a person as a staff member is on the terms conditions stated in the person's contract of employment.	15 16		
	(2)		contract may include terms and conditions about any of following matters—	17 18		
		(a)	remuneration;	19		
		(b)	the term of employment;	20		
		(c)	ending the employment before the end of the stated term;	21 22		
		(d)	suspension from duty or other disciplinary action.	23		
	(3)		section (2) does not limit the matters that may be dealt in the stated terms and conditions.	24 25		
	(4) The employment may be full-time or part-time.		employment may be full-time or part-time.	26		
	(5)	The	employment may be on a temporary or casual basis.	27		
11	Na	ture o	of employment	28		
		A po	erson employed as a staff member—	29		
		(a)	does not, only because of the employment, become a public service employee; and	30 31		

		(b)	is ar and	n employee for the Industrial Relations Act 1999;	1 2
		(c)	is an	employee of the State.	3
			Note	for paragraph (c)—	4
				delegation may be made to a staff member under the <i>Financial</i> <i>ecountability Act 2009</i> , section 76.	5 6
12	Su	perar	nnuat	ion	7
			-	<i>perannuation (State Public Sector) Act 1990</i> , a staff taken to be an employee of the department.	8 9
13	Pre	eserv	ation	of public service employee's rights	10
	(1)	a sta	iff me	on applies if, immediately before being employed as mber, a person was employed on tenure as a public aployee.	11 12 13
	(2)	as a	publi	n keeps all rights accrued or accruing to the person c service employee as if service as a staff member ntinuation of service as a public service employee.	14 15 16
	(3)	othe not r	r than enewe	on's contract of employment as a staff member ends by disciplinary action, or the contract expires and is ed or replaced by another contract of employment as mber—	17 18 19 20
		(a)		person becomes a public service employee loyed on tenure—	21 22
			(i)	at the classification level at which the person would have been employed if the person had continued in employment as a public service employee on tenure; and	23 24 25 26
			(ii)	on the remuneration to which the person would have been entitled if the person had continued in employment as a public service employee on tenure; and	27 28 29 30
			(iii)	in the department in which the person was employed immediately before being employed as a	31 32

[s 14]

		staff member or, if the department has changed, the department that is the nearest practical equivalent; and	1 2 3
		(b) the person's service as a staff member is taken to be service as a public service employee for working out the person's rights as a public service employee.	4 5 6
Part	3	Work performance and conduct of staff members	7 8
Divis	ion	1 Directions	9
14	Sta	if members subject to direction	10
	(1)	A ministerial staff member is subject to the direction of his or her employing member and the Premier.	11 12
	(2)	A staff member other than a ministerial staff member is subject to the direction of his or her employing member.	13 14
	(3)	A staff member may also be subject to the direction of other persons under the staff member's contract of employment (for example, a more senior staff member).	15 16 17
15		ff members not empowered to direct public service ployees	18 19
	(1)	A public service employee is not subject to the direction of a staff member.	20 21
	(2)	Subsection (1) does not prevent a staff member giving a direction to a public service employee on behalf of a person who may lawfully give the direction.	22 23 24

			[s 16]	
			nple of a person who may lawfully give a direction to a public service oyee—	1 2
		ch	the Minister administering a department may give a direction to the ief executive of the department under the <i>Public Service Act 2008</i> , ction 100.	3 4 5
Divi	sion	2	Guiding principles and values	6
16	Wo	rk pe	erformance and personal conduct principles	7
			taff member's work performance and personal conduct t be directed towards—	8 9
		(a)	acting honestly, fairly and in the public interest; and	1
		(b)	ensuring the effective, efficient and appropriate use of public resources; and	1 1
		(c)	interacting with public service employees respectfully, collaboratively and with integrity; and	1 1
		(d)	observing all laws relevant to the staff member's employment; and	1 1
		(e)	ensuring the staff member's personal conduct does not reflect adversely on the reputation of his or her employing member; and	1 1 1
		(f)	complying with any code of conduct that applies to the staff member under division 3.	2 2
17	Eth	ics v	values	2
	(1)	part	ethics values stated in the <i>Public Sector Ethics Act 1994</i> , 3, division 2 apply to staff members as if a reference in division to a public official included a staff member.	2 2 2
	(2)	relat they carr	vever, ethics values about providing advice, or acting in tion to policies, apply to staff members subject to the way may reasonably be expected to honestly and properly y out their functions helping Ministers, the Leader of the position or other non-government members.	2 2 2 2 2 2

### [s 18]

		Examples—	1
		1 A staff member's function may include providing advice that is not apolitical.	2 3
		2 The functions of a staff member employed in the office of a non-government member may not be directed towards developing or giving effect to policies of the government.	4 5 6
	(3)	In this section—	7
		<i>policies</i> includes priorities and decisions.	8
18	Pu	rpose and application of principles and values	9
	(1)	The principles and values applying to staff members under sections 16 and 17 are intended to guide staff members in their work performance and personal conduct and are not of themselves legally enforceable.	10 11 12 13
	(2)	The chief executive may have regard to the principles and values when making a decision under this Act relating to the work performance or personal conduct of staff members.	14 15 16
		Example of a decision for subsection (2)—	17
		a decision about including a particular condition in a staff member's contract of employment	18 19
Divi	sion	3 Codes of conduct	20
19	Co	des of conduct	21
	(1)	The chief executive may approve a code of conduct applying to—	22 23
		(a) ministerial staff members; or	24
		(b) staff members employed in the office of the Leader of the Opposition; or	25 26
		(c) staff members employed under section 8.	27

		[s 20]	
	(2)	In deciding whether to approve a code of conduct, the chief executive must have regard to the principles and ethics values applying to staff members under division 2.	1 2 3
	(3)	Subsection (1) applies subject to section 21(2).	4
20	Pu	rpose of codes	5
		The purpose of a code of conduct is to provide standards of conduct for the staff members to whom it applies.	6 7
21	Co	nsultation about, and review of, codes	8
	(1)	For this section, the <i>relevant person</i> for a code of conduct is—	9 10
		(a) for a code applying to ministerial staff members—the Premier; or	11 12
		<ul> <li>(b) for a code applying to staff members employed in the office of the Leader of the Opposition—the Leader of the Opposition; or</li> </ul>	13 14 15
		(c) for a code applying to staff members employed under section 8—each person who is an employing member for a staff member employed under section 8.	16 17 18
	(2)	The chief executive must consult with the relevant person, or each relevant person, for a code of conduct before approving the code under section 19.	19 20 21
	(3)	The chief executive must review a code of conduct if requested by a person who is, at the time of the request, a relevant person for the code.	22 23 24
22	Со	mpliance with codes	25
	(1)	A staff member must comply with an approved code of conduct that applies to the staff member.	26 27
	(2)	Contravention of an approved code of conduct by a staff member may give rise to disciplinary action under the staff member's contract of employment.	28 29 30

[s 23]

Division 4			Declaration of interests and dealing with conflicts	1 2
23	Ref	feren	ces to interest or conflict of interest	3
		inter mean the c	eference in this division to an interest or to a conflict of rest is a reference to those matters within their ordinary ning under the general law, and, in relation to an interest, definition in the <i>Acts Interpretation Act 1954</i> , section 36, a not apply.	4 5 6 7 8
24	Dee	clarat	tion of interests	9
	(1)		aff member must give his or her employing member a ement about the staff member's interests—	10 11
		(a)	within 1 month after starting employment; and	12
		(b)	whenever there is a change to the staff member's interests that is of a type prescribed under a directive of the chief executive; and	13 14 15
		(c)	during June in each year.	16
	(2)		statement must include the information required under a ctive of the chief executive.	17 18
	(3)	as so	statement required under subsection (1)(b) must be given oon as practicable after the relevant facts about the change e to the staff member's knowledge.	19 20 21
25	Со	nflict	s of interest	22
	(1)	with	staff member has an interest that conflicts or may conflict the discharge of the staff member's responsibilities, the member—	23 24 25
		(a)	must disclose the nature of the interest and conflict to his or her employing member as soon as practicable after the relevant facts come to the staff member's knowledge; and	26 27 28 29

[s 26]

- (b) must not take action or further action concerning a matter that is, or may be, affected by the conflict unless 2 authorised by his or her employing member. 3
- The employing member for a staff member may direct the 4 (2)staff member to resolve a conflict or possible conflict between 5 an interest of the staff member and the staff member's 6 responsibilities. 7

Part 4		Miscellaneous	8	
Divi	sion	1 Rulings	9	
26	Ch	ief executive may make directives	10	
	(1)	The chief executive may, by gazette notice, make a directive about a matter relating to the employment of staff members, including, for example, a directive about standards of conduct applying to staff members.	11 12 13 14	
	(2)	A directive may provide for a matter by applying, adopting or incorporating the provisions of a public service directive, as in force at a particular time or from time to time, with any necessary changes to apply the public service directive in relation to staff members, and with or without any other modification.	15 16 17 18 19 20	
	(3)	A directive binds the persons to whom it applies.	21	
	(4)	In this section—	22	
		<i>public service directive</i> means a directive made under the <i>Public Service Act 2008.</i>	23 24	

### [s 27]

27	Relationship with legislation					
		If a directive is inconsistent with an Act or subordinate legislation, the Act or subordinate legislation prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.	2 3 4			
28		ationship between directives and industrial truments	5 6			
	(1)	This section applies if a directive deals with a matter all or part of which is dealt with under an industrial instrument of the IRC.	7 8 9			
	(2)	The directive prevails over the industrial instrument, unless a regulation provides otherwise.	10 11			
		Note—	12			
		See however, the <i>Industrial Relations Act 1999</i> , section 687 (Conflict between industrial instruments etc. and statutory decision).	13 14			
	(3)	In this section—	15			
		<i>directive</i> includes a decision made in the exercise of a discretion under a directive.	16 17			
		<i>IRC</i> means the Industrial Relations Commission under the <i>Industrial Relations Act 1999</i> .	18 19			
29	Ch	ief executive may make guidelines	20			
	(1)	The chief executive may make a guideline about a matter relating to the employment of staff members.	21 22			
	(2)	A guideline may be made in the way the chief executive considers appropriate.	23 24			
	(3)	A guideline may provide for a matter by applying, adopting or incorporating the provisions of a public service guideline, as in force at a particular time or from time to time, with any necessary changes to apply the public service guideline in relation to staff members, and with or without any other modification.	25 26 27 28 29 30			

	(4)	A guideline is for the guidance only of the persons to whom it applies.	1 2
	(5)	In this section—	3
		<i>public service guideline</i> means a guideline made under the <i>Public Service Act 2008</i> .	4 5
30	Re	placed public service rulings	6
	(1)	This section applies if, under section 26(2) or 29(3), a directive or guideline provides for a matter by applying, adopting or incorporating the provisions of a public service ruling (the <i>first public service ruling</i> ).	7 8 9 10
	(2)	The directive or guideline may provide that, if the first public service ruling is repealed and a new public service ruling dealing with substantially the same subject matter is made to replace it, the directive or guideline continues to operate as if a reference in it to the first public service ruling were a reference to the new public service ruling.	11 12 13 14 15 16
	(3)	In this section—	17
		<i>public service ruling</i> means a public service directive or public service guideline made under the <i>Public Service Act</i> 2008.	18 19 20
Divi	sion	2 Application of Acts	21
31	Ар	plication of Crime and Misconduct Act 2001	22
		For the <i>Crime and Misconduct Act 2001</i> , a staff member is taken to hold an appointment in the department.	23 24
32	Ар	plication of Ombudsman Act 2001	25
		For the <i>Ombudsman Act 2001</i> , a staff member is taken to be an officer of the department.	26 27

[s 33]

Division 3		3 Other matters	1
33	Ad	visory committees	2
	(1)	The chief executive may establish advisory committees to advise the Premier on issues relevant to this Act.	3 4
	(2)	The chief executive may appoint a person as a member of an advisory committee if the chief executive is satisfied the person has skills or experience appropriate to the committee's terms of reference or functions.	5 6 7 8
	(3)	A member of an advisory committee is entitled to the remuneration and allowances, if any, stated in the member's terms of appointment.	9 10 11
	(4)	The chief executive may decide matters about an advisory committee that are not provided for under this section including, for example, the way a committee must conduct meetings or report to the Premier.	12 13 14 15
34	An	nual report	16
	(1)	At the end of each financial year, the chief executive must prepare and give to the Premier a report about the operation of this Act during the financial year.	17 18 19
	(2)	The report must include details of the staff members employed under this Act for all or part of the financial year.	20 21
	(3)	The chief executive must give the report to the Premier by an agreed date that allows the Premier to table the report under this section.	22 23 24
	(4)	The report may be included in the department's annual report for the financial year.	25 26
		Note—	27
		The <i>Financial Accountability Act 2009</i> , section 63 states the requirement for tabling the department's annual report.	28 29
	(5)	If the report is not included in the department's annual report for the financial year, the Premier must table the report in the	30 31

		[s 35]	
		Legislative Assembly within 3 months after the end of the financial year.	1 2
35	De	legations	3
	(1)	The Premier may delegate the Premier's functions under section 6 to an appropriately qualified ministerial staff member.	4 5 6
	(2)	The chief executive may delegate the chief executive's functions under this Act to an appropriately qualified public service employee.	7 8 9
	(3)	In this section—	10
		<i>appropriately qualified</i> includes having the qualifications, experience or standing appropriate for the function.	11 12
		Example of standing for a public service employee—	13
		the employee's classification or level in a department	14
		functions includes powers.	15
36	Eff	ect of Act on the State	16
	(1)	Subject to subsection (3), this Act binds the State.	17
	(2)	The chief executive employs persons under this Act as the authorised agent of the State.	18 19
	(3)	The right or power of the State recognised at common law to dispense with the services of a person employed by the State is not abrogated or restricted by any provision of this Act.	20 21 22
37	Re	gulation-making power	23
		The Governor in Council may make regulations under this Act.	24 25

[s 38]

Part 5		Transitional			
38	Меа	In th	<b>g of commencement</b> is part— <b>mencement</b> means the commencement of the provision in the term appears.	2 3 4 5	
39	Cur	rentl	y appointed staff members	6	
	(1)	com contr secti	section applies to a person who, immediately before the mencement, was employed by the chief executive under a ract of employment under the <i>Public Service Act 2008</i> , on 147 or 148 in the office of a Minister or the office of Leader of the Opposition.	7 8 9 10 11	
	(2)		person is not, only because of that employment, a public ice employee.	12 13	
	(3)		le the person continues to be employed under the contract nployment—	14 15	
		(a)	the person is a staff member; and	16	
		(b)	this Act applies to the person as if the contract of employment had been entered into under this Act.	17 18	
40		larat mber	tion of interests of currently appointed staff	19 20	
	(1)	empl	aff member mentioned in section 39 must give his or her loying member a statement complying with section 24 in 1 month after the commencement.	21 22 23	
	(2)	How	ever, subsection (1) does not apply if—	24	
		(a)	the staff member gave a complying statement to his or her employing member on or after 1 June last occurring before the commencement; and	25 26 27	

		[s 41]	
	(b)	there has been no material change to the staff member's interests since the last complying statement given to the employing member.	1 2 3
(3	) In th	nis section—	Z
	com requ	<i>plying statement</i> means a statement, given before the mencement, that included all information of the type fired to be included in a statement under section 24 given mediately after the commencement.	
	sect	erial change means a change of the type mentioned in ion $24(1)(b)$ as in force immediately after the mencement.	9 1 1
С	odes d	of conduct	1
(1)	unti	arrent code of conduct has effect, from the commencement I it is revoked under this Act, as if it were approved under 3, division 3.	-
(2	) In th	is section—	
	curr	rent code of conduct means a code of conduct that—	
	(a)	is expressed to apply to—	
		(i) persons employed in ministerial offices; or	
		(ii) persons employed in the office of the Leader of the Opposition; and	
	(b)	was approved by the Premier before the commencement; and	,
	(c)	was in force immediately before the commencement under administrative arrangements.	
R	ulings		4
(1	) This	s section applies to a ruling (a <i>current ruling</i> ) that—	2
	(a)	was made under the <i>Public Service Act 2008</i> before the commencement; and	2

### [s 42]

	(b)	immediately before the commencement, applied to a person employed by the chief executive under a contract of employment under the <i>Public Service Act 2008</i> , section 147 or 148 in the office of a Minister or the office of the Leader of the Opposition.	1 2 3 4 5
(2)	to s refe	ject to subsection (3), the current ruling applies in relation staff members, during the transitional period, as if a rence in it to a public service employee included a staff or and with any other necessary changes.	6 7 8 9
(3)		current ruling stops applying in relation to staff members er subsection (2) if—	10 11
	(a)	the current ruling is revoked under the <i>Public Service Act 2008</i> ; or	12 13
	(b)	the chief executive makes a directive under section 26 or guideline under section 29, whichever is relevant, ending the application of the current ruling in relation to staff members.	14 15 16 17
(4)	mak 29 a	s section does not affect the chief executive's power to e a directive under section 26 or guideline under section applying a current ruling in relation to staff members ng or after the transitional period.	18 19 20 21
(5)	inclu	eference in this Act to a directive of the chief executive udes a directive under the <i>Public Service Act 2008</i> ying in relation to a staff member under this section.	22 23 24
(6)	In th	nis section—	25
		<i>sitional period</i> means the period of 3 months starting on commencement.	26 27

Part 6			Amendments	1
Div	ision	1	Amendment of Criminal Code	2
43	Ac		ended s division amends the Criminal Code.	3 4
44	Am	endr	ment of s 1 (Definitions)	5
			tion 1, definition <i>person employed in the public service</i> , r 'police officers,'—	6 7
		inse	rt—	8
			ff members under the <i>Ministerial and Other Office Holder</i> if Act 2010'.	9 10
45		endr htrac	ment of s 89 (Public officers interested in ts)	11 12
		Sect	tion 89—	13
		inse	rt—	14
	'(2)	publ <i>Min</i>	eference in subsection (1) to a person employed in the lic service includes a ministerial staff member under the <i>isterial and Other Office Holder Staff Act 2010</i> and, for purpose—	15 16 17 18
		(a)	a ministerial staff member employed in the office of a Minister is taken to be employed in each department administered by the Minister; and	19 20 21
		(b)	a ministerial staff member employed in the office of a Parliamentary secretary is taken to be employed in each department for which the Parliamentary Secretary is given responsibility under his or her functions.	22 23 24 25

[s 46]

			Note—	1
			Under the <i>Constitution of Queensland 2001</i> , section 25, a Parliamentary Secretary has the functions decided by the Premier.'.	2 3 4
Div	ision	2	Amendment of Industrial Relations Act 1999	5 6
46	Act	t ame	nded	7
		This	division amends the Industrial Relations Act 1999.	8
47	Am	endn	nent of s 686 (Application of Act to State)	9
	(1)		ion 686(4)—	10
		renu	mber as section 686(5).	11
	(2)	Secti	ion 686—	12
		inser	<i>t</i> —	13
	<b>'</b> (4)	Subs	sections (2) and (3) also apply as if—	14
		(a)	a reference in those provisions to a public service employee included a staff member under the <i>Ministerial</i> and Other Office Holder Act 2010; and	15 16 17
		(b)	a reference in those provisions to a ruling included a directive under the <i>Ministerial and Other Office Holder Act 2010.</i> '.	18 19 20
48			nent of s 687 (Conflict between industrial ents etc. and statutory decision)	21 22
			ion 687(1)(a)—	23
			, insert—	24
		'(a)	any of the following directives—	25
		. /	<ul><li>(i) a directive under the <i>Public Service Act 2008</i> made</li><li>by the chief executive of the Public Service</li></ul>	26 27

			Commission that is the subject of a regulation under section $52(2)$ of that Act;	1 2
		(ii)	a directive under the <i>Public Service Act 2008</i> made by the Minister administering this Act;	3 4
		(iii)	a directive under the <i>Ministerial and Other Office</i> <i>Holder Act 2010</i> that is the subject of a regulation under section 28(2) of that Act; and'.	5 6 7
Divi	sion	3	Amendment of Integrity Act 2009	8
49	Act	tamended	I	9
		This divis	ion amends the Integrity Act 2009.	10
50	Am	endment	of sch 2 (Dictionary)	11
	(1)		2, definitions <i>ministerial staff member</i> and <i>stary secretary staff member</i> —	12 13
		omit.		14
	(2)	Schedule	2—	15
		insert—		16
		the <i>Minist</i> staff men	al staff member means a person employed under terial and Other Office Holder Staff Act 2010 as a nber in the office of a Minister other than a tary Secretary.	17 18 19 20
		employed	<i>tary secretary staff member</i> means a person under the <i>Ministerial and Other Office Holder Staff</i> as a staff member in the office of a Parliamentary	21 22 23 24

[s 51]

Divi	sion	4 Amendment of Parliamentary Service Act 1998	1 2
51	Act amended		3
		This division amends the Parliamentary Service Act 1998.	4
52	Ins	ertion of new s 26AA	5
		After section 26—	6
		insert—	7
'26AA Electorate office staff			8
	<b>'</b> (1)	On the recommendation of a member, the Speaker may appoint a person under section $26(1)$ as an officer in the member's electorate office to help the member to effectively discharge the member's duties.	9 10 11 12
	<b>'</b> (2)	In this section—	13
		member means a member of the Legislative Assembly.	14
		officer means an officer or officer on probation of the parliamentary service.'.	15 16
		5 Amendment of Public Service Act 2008	17 18
53	Act	tamended	19
		This division amends the Public Service Act 2008.	20
54	Am cor	nendment of s 26 (Work performance and personal nduct principles)	21 22
	(1)	Section 26—	23
		insert—	24
		'(ga) acting honestly, fairly and in the public interest; and	25

	(gb) interacting with staff members under the <i>Ministerial and</i> <i>Other Office Holder Staff Act 2010</i> respectfully, collaboratively and with integrity; and'.	1 2 3
(2)	Section 26(ga) to (k)—	4
	renumber as section 26(h) to (m).	5

Schedule

#### Schedule Dictionary 1 section 3 2 commencement, for part 5, see section 38. 3 *directive*, of the chief executive, includes a public service 4 directive to the extent it applies in relation to a staff member 5 under section 26(2). 6 *employing member*, for a staff member, means the Minister or 7 other member of the Legislative Assembly in whose office the 8 staff member is employed. 9 *independent member* means a non-government member who 10is not a member of the political party to which the Leader of 11 the Opposition belongs. 12 *Leader of the Opposition* means the member of the 13 Legislative Assembly recognised in the Legislative Assembly 14 as the Leader of the Opposition. 15 *Minister* includes a Parliamentary Secretary. 16 *ministerial staff member* means a person employed under this 17 Act as a staff member in the office of a Minister. 18 *non-government member* means a member of the Legislative 19 Assembly who is not a member of a political party recognised 20 in the Legislative Assembly as being in government. 21 **Parliamentary Secretary** means a member of the Legislative 22 Assembly appointed as a Parliamentary Secretary under the 23 Constitution of Queensland 2001, section 24. 24 *remuneration* includes salary. 25 staff member means a person employed under this Act as a 26 staff member in the office of a Minister, the Leader of the 27 Opposition or another non-government member. 28

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