



Honourable Deb Frecklington MP  
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice  
Minister for Integrity

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Our ref: 572305/11, 7632232

Your ref: 4365-26

12 MAR 2026

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie, *Neil,*

I refer to e-Petition 4365-26 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 10 February 2026 titled *Electoral Laws (Restoring Electoral Fairness) Amendment Bill 2025*.

I thank the petitioners for bringing their concerns to the attention of the House regarding the provisions in the Electoral Laws (Restoring Electoral Fairness) Amendment Bill 2025 (the Bill) that:

- increase restrictions on voting for persons serving sentences of imprisonment or detention of one year or longer (rather than the current prohibition of sentences of imprisonment of three years or longer); and
- remove the ban on political donations from property developers for State elections and targeting the ban to local government elections only.

The petition requests the House withdraw these provisions from the Bill and refer the matters to all citizens of Queensland via a referendum or other instrument such as a state-wide postal survey. I can advise this request is not supported by the Government.

All members of the public were provided an opportunity to have their say on the Bill through the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee's inquiry. I note that in its Report on the Bill, the Committee recommended the Bill be passed.

Prior to 31 January 2020, prisoners serving sentences of imprisonment of any length were not entitled to vote at state and local government elections and referendums. With the commencement of the former Labor government's *Electoral and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2019* on 31 January 2020, the position was changed so that prisoners serving sentences of up to three years became entitled to vote at state

and local government elections and referendums. This allowed a large cohort of criminals to begin voting in our elections from within prison walls. This was unacceptable to the Crisafulli Government, and an insult to victims right across our state.

As noted in the title of the Bill, the Bill is designed to restore electoral fairness. This is achieved by removing the ban on political donations from property developers, that was implemented by the previous Labor government. Removing the ban ensures a key sector can again engage in the democratic process by being able to donate to political parties and ensuring unions do not have an unfair advantage.

The property developer donation ban was fundamentally and philosophically an electoral financial gerrymander by the former Labor government. Premier Crisafulli made it very clear before the election, including at the pre-election leaders' debate on 16 October 2024 that an elected LNP government would repeal the ban on political donations from property developers at state elections.

While the petition was posted on 9 February 2026, at a time when the Bill was still before the Legislative Assembly, the Bill was passed by the 58<sup>th</sup> Parliament on 10 February 2026.

I thank the petitioners for taking the time to raise their concerns and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Deb Frecklington', is written over the typed name and title.

**DEB FRECKLINGTON MP**  
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice  
Minister for Integrity