

Parliament of Queensland (Registered Political Parties) Amendment Bill 2012

Explanatory Notes

Short title

The short title of the Bill is the Parliament of Queensland (Registered Political Parties) Amendment Bill 2012.

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The policy objective of the Bill is to amend the definition of ‘recognised political party’ under section 112(3)(b) of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*, to clarify that the minimum of three members of the Legislative Assembly required for recognised party status must have been members of the registered political party at the most recent election at which they were elected.

Achievement of policy objectives

The Bill reforms how a registered political party can be recognised in the Legislative Assembly for additional salary entitlement of some members.

Alternative ways of achieving policy objectives

There is no alternative method of achieving the policy objective as the objective requires the amendment of existing legislation.

Estimated cost for government implementation

Nil.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Bill is consistent with the fundamental legislative principles set out in the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*.

Consultation

The Clerk of the Parliament has been consulted during the drafting of the Bill.

Consistency with legislation of other jurisdictions

The Bill is specific to the State of Queensland.

Notes on provisions

Clause 1 sets out the short title of the Act.


Clause 2 provides that the Act commences, or is taken to have commenced, on 29 November 2012.

Clause 3 provides that the Act amends the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*.

Clause 4 omits existing section 112(3)(b) and inserts a new section 112(3)(b).

New section 112(3)(b) provides that a registered political party is a recognised political party for section 112(1) if:-

- at least three Legislative Assembly members are party members and were party members at the most recent election at which they were elected; and
- for the most recent general election, the total number of first preference votes for all candidates who were party members was at least 10% of the total number of first preference votes for all candidates.

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