

Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2020

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, the Honourable Cameron Dick MP, Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure and Planning, make this statement of compatibility with respect to the Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2020 (the Bill).

In my opinion, the Bill is compatible with the human rights protected by the *Human Rights Act 2019*. I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this statement.

Overview of the Bill

Supplementary Appropriation

Section 35 of the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* provides that, should expenditure from the Consolidated Fund exceed the amount approved by annual appropriation, Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Treasurer, may authorise the expenditure. This is known as unforeseen expenditure and must be approved by the Governor in Council within four weeks of the end of the financial year. Unforeseen expenditure must also be formally approved by Parliament via Appropriation Bills.

On 16 July 2020, the Governor in Council authorised unforeseen expenditure incurred during the 2019-20 financial year. Parliamentary approval for the unforeseen expenditure is now being sought, which is comprised of \$519,000 for the Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Service.

Interim Supply

As a result of the COVID-19 crisis, the Queensland State Budget and introduction of the Annual Appropriation Bills for the 2020-21 financial year have been postponed until after the October 2020 State election.

There is a likelihood that interim supply amounts will be inadequate to carry the Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Service through to the assent of the 2020-21 Annual Appropriation Bills to be introduced with the next published budget.

To mitigate this risk, the Bill increases interim supply amounts for 2020-21 to the amount appropriated for 2019-20.

The Bill provides for \$50,523,500 additional interim supply for Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Service.

Human Rights Issues

Human rights relevant to the Bill (Part 2, Division 2 and 3 *Human Rights Act 2019*)

The proposed Bill seeks Parliamentary approval for unforeseen expenditure in 2019-20 as well as provide additional interim supply for 2020-21 given the deferred State Budget. As the Bill only applies to internal Government bodies, they in no way limit the human rights of an individual.

Conclusion

In my opinion, the Bill is compatible with human rights under the *Human Rights Act 2019* as it does not limit an individual's human rights.

THE HONOURABLE CAMERON DICK MP
TREASURER, MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING

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