

Rural and Regional Adjustment (COVID-19 Jobs Support Loan Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2020

Human Rights Certificate

Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*

In accordance with section 41 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*, I, Mark Furner MP, Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries, provide this Human Rights Certificate with respect to the *Rural and Regional Adjustment (COVID-19 Jobs Support Loan Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2020* (Amendment Regulation) made under the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.

In my opinion, the Amendment Regulation, as tabled in the Legislative Assembly, is compatible with the human rights protected by the *Human Rights Act 2019*. I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this certificate.

Overview of the Subordinate Legislation

The Amendment Regulation is made under the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.

The authorising law for the regulation is:

Sections 3, 10, 11 and 44 of the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.

The main objective of the Amendment Regulation is to assist eligible entities that are financially impacted by COVID-19 to retain employees and maintain their business operations.

The COVID-19 Jobs Support Loan Scheme (the Scheme) will enable the provision of concessional loans, of a maximum term of 10 years, to eligible entities for amounts up to 50 per cent of an applicant's average annual employee wage expense over the 2017-18 and 2018-19 financial years, to a maximum of \$250,000.

The total amount that may be given for all loans under the Scheme is \$500 million.

Human Rights Issues

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

The *Human Rights Act 2019* has been considered in regard to the Amendment Regulation and it has been determined that no human rights are limited by the Amendment Regulation. This is because the Scheme protects the human rights of the individuals who stand behind eligible entities and does not limit their rights.

Conclusion

I consider that the *Rural and Regional Adjustment (COVID-19 Jobs Support Loan Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2020* is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* because it does not raise a human rights issue.

MARK FURNER MP
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES

©The State of Queensland 2020