

# Rural and Regional Adjustment (Further Variation of COVID-19 Business Support Grants Scheme (August 2021)) Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2021

## 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 and Minister for Rural Communities, provide this human rights certificate with respect to the *Rural and Regional Adjustment (Further Variation of COVID-19 Business Support Grants Scheme (August 2021)) Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2021* made under the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.

In my opinion, the *Rural and Regional Adjustment (Further Variation of COVID-19 Business Support Grants Scheme (August 2021)) Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2021* (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 statement.

## 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 Amendment Regulation amends the COVID-19 Business Supports Grants Scheme (August 2021) (the Scheme) which is prescribed in schedule 37 of the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Regulation 2011*.

The objective of the Amendment Regulation is to enable the Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) to provide further assistance to eligible business and non-profit organisations located in the border area under the Scheme.

The Scheme initially provided grants to eligible employing Queensland businesses and non-profit organisations most significantly impacted by ‘lock down’ restrictions imposed in August 2021 to contain the spread of COVID-19. The Scheme was then expanded to allow for businesses and non-profit organisations that are impacted by a ‘border closure event’ and trading within a ‘border area’ to apply for a grant under the scheme.

The Amendment Regulation amends the Scheme to enable QRIDA to provide one-off \$5,000 ongoing hardship grants to eligible businesses and non-profit organisations who are trading in the ‘border area’ and have been continuously affected by ‘border closure events’ between 14 August 2021 and 14 October 2021.

## Human Rights Issues

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

The Amendment Regulation has been considered with regards to the *Human Rights Act 2019* and it has been determined that no human rights are engaged by the Amendment Regulation.

## Conclusion

I consider that the *Rural and Regional Adjustment (Further Variation of COVID-19 Business Support Grants Scheme (August 2021)) Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2021* is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* because it does not limit human rights.

**MARK FURNER MP**  
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES  
AND MINISTER FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

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