

# Proclamation – *Integrity and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024*

## 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, the Honourable Steven Miles MP, Premier provide this human rights certificate with respect to the Proclamation to commence provisions of the *Integrity and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024*.

In my opinion, the Proclamation, 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 Proclamation fixes 28 May 2024 as the day for the commencement of certain provisions of the *Integrity and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024* (Amendment Act).

The Amendment Act gives effect to recommendations from ‘Let the sunshine in: Review of culture and accountability in the Queensland public sector’ (Coaldrake Report) and the ‘Strategic Review of the Integrity Commissioner’s Functions’ (Yearbury Report), to strengthen the regulation of lobbyists and lobbying activities and enhance the independence of core integrity bodies, including the Queensland Integrity Commissioner, the Auditor-General, the Ombudsman, the Information Commissioner and the Crime and Corruption Commission.

The Proclamation commences provisions that enable some of the recommendations of the Coaldrake Report and Yearbury Report to be implemented.

The provisions to be commenced amend:

- the *Auditor-General Act 2009* to:
  - mandate the Auditor-General to audit each trust subject to the control of one or more public sector entities; and
  - align employment arrangements for Queensland Audit Office staff engaged on mobility arrangements, with the *Public Sector Act 2022*;
- the *Integrity Act 2009* to:
  - replace Chapter 4 of the *Integrity Act 2009* to provide a more modern and improved framework for regulating lobbying activity, by retaining or strengthening existing functions and including new functions, for example by:
    - increasing regulation of lobbying activity to address the public perception of undue influence on governments, including clarifying what lobbying activity is and enhancing the regulatory role of the Queensland Integrity Commissioner;

- amending the conditions for registration as a lobbyist to reflect expectations around completing training and managing conflicts of interest; and
- introducing a prohibition on a registered lobbyist playing a ‘substantial’ role for a political party in an election campaign;
- enable the Premier to nominate a person or a person within a class of persons to request integrity advice from the Queensland Integrity Commissioner, with that nomination expiring after 28 days;
- enable chiefs of staff to request advice on an ethics or integrity issue involving a ministerial advisor;
- enable ministerial advisors to seek post-employment advice on an ethics or integrity issue prior to their separation of employment; and
- remove any remaining references to ‘senior officers’ that were not removed in previous amendments to the *Integrity Act 2009*; and
- various Acts to make minor consequential amendments to remove obsolete definitions or references to the ‘auditor-general’ and support the above amendments.

## Human Rights Issues

The Proclamation commences provisions of the Amendment Act in accordance with section 2 of that Act. The Proclamation does not contain any substantive legislative provisions and does not raise any human rights issues.

A full assessment of the provisions being commenced was undertaken in the Human Rights Statement of Compatibility for the Integrity and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023.

## Conclusion

I consider that the Proclamation is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* because it does not raise any human rights issues.

**HONOURABLE STEVEN MILES MP**  
PREMIER

© The State of Queensland 2024