



7 June 2022

Local Electoral (Advertising) Amendment Bill Legislative Statement

The Local Electoral (Advertising) Amendment Bill (the Bill) amends the Local Electoral Act 2001 (the Act). The policy objective of this Bill is to address safety concerns related to the publication of residential addresses on local election campaign advertisements, while continuing to provide for accountability and transparency in electoral advertising.

Section 113 of the Act requires electoral advertising to include an authorisation statement that sets out “the true name of the person or persons for whom or at whose direction it is published and the address of his or her place of residence or business”. Concerns have been raised about the safety of individuals who are required to publish their residential address on electoral advertising.

The Bill amends section 113 of the Act so that the address requirement of an advertisement authorisation statement can be met by providing—

- a residential or business address; or
- an email address; or
- a post office box number; or
- a phone number; or
- a link to a page on an Internet site (if the page contains 1 or more of the above).