c2025-087F OPP--Opposition

#### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

# **Community Improvement Districts Bill 2025**

## First print

# **Proposed amendments**

## No. 1 Small Business Advisory Panel

Page 3. Insert after line 23—

#### 7A Small Business Advisory Panel

- (1) The Authority must establish a Small Business Advisory Panel.
- (2) The membership of the panel must be determined by the Authority, but must include the following persons—
  - (a) the Small Business Commissioner,
  - (b) at least one member nominated by the Council of Small Business Organisations Australia Ltd.
- (3) The function of the panel is to advise the Authority on matters concerning small businesses' relationship with CIDs.
- (4) The procedure of the panel is to be determined by the Authority or, subject to the determination by the Authority, by the panel itself.

#### No. 2 Waivers and reductions—serious hardship

Page 11, proposed Part 4. Insert after line 37—

# Division 2A Waiver or reduction of levy

# 25A Authority may waive or reduce levy where serious hardship

- (1) The Authority may waive or reduce the levy payable by a landowner if the landowner has demonstrated to the Authority that payment of the levy would result in serious hardship.
- (2) If the Authority decides to waive or reduce the levy payable by a person, the Authority must give notice of that decision to the relevant CID entity.
- (3) The Authority must give effect to that decision by—
  - (a) waiving or reducing the levy payable, as the case requires, and
  - (b) writing off the amount that is waived or the amount of the reduction.
- (4) Accrued interest on the levy may be waived or reduced under this section in the same way as the levy.

(5) Accordingly, a reference in this section to the levy includes a reference to accrued interest on the levy.

#### No. 3 Waivers and reductions—proportionate benefit

Page 11, proposed Part 4. Insert after line 37—

# Division 2B Waiver or reduction of levy

## 25B Authority may waive or reduce levy

- (1) The Authority may waive or reduce the levy payable by a landowner if the landowner has demonstrated to the Authority that the landowner would not receive a proportionate benefit by payment of the levy.
  - **Example—** An IT business with all its clients in another country may not benefit to a proportionate degree from CID services, projects or activities when compared with a neighbouring retail business.
- (2) If the Authority decides to waive or reduce the levy payable by a person, the Authority must give notice of that decision to the relevant CID entity.
- (3) The Authority must give effect to that decision by—
  - (a) waiving or reducing the levy payable, as the case requires, and
  - (b) writing off the amount that is waived or the amount of the reduction.
- (4) Accrued interest on the levy may be waived or reduced under this section in the same way as the levy.
- (5) Accordingly, a reference in this section to the levy includes a reference to accrued interest on the levy.

#### No. 4 **Government land**

Page 14, clause 31. Insert after line 6—

(1A) Despite subsection (1), this Act does apply to government land if the government land is leased on a commercial basis to a person or body that is not the State or the Commonwealth or an agency of the State or the Commonwealth.

# No. 5 **Power to require information and documents**

Page 15, clause 35. Insert after 35—

(2A) This section does not limit a privilege a person or body has under another Act or another law.

#### No. 6 **Report to Parliament**

Page 17. Insert after line 17—

#### 43 Report to Parliament

- (1) The Small Business Minister must, at least once every 12 months, report to Parliament on the following matters—
  - (a) how CIDs have operated in relation to small business,
  - (b) whether CID entities have adequately engaged with and supported small business,
  - (c) the examples and evidence provided by CID entities of the engagement and support.
- (2) The Authority must, on request, give the Small Business Minister information in its possession to assist the Small Business Minister in complying with this section.

(3) In this section—

**Small Business Minister** means the minister administering the *Small Business Commissioner Act 2013*.