

## **INQUIRY INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT (ELECTIONS) BILL 2025**

**Name:** Ms Claire Campbell

**Date Received:** 5 July 2025

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## Local Gov Amendments Bill 2025

I live in Coffs Harbour which has a National Party dominant council even though one councillor only received 20 votes.

The new amendment proposes that casual vacancies should always be replaced by someone from the same party. I disagree because of the situation in Coffs Harbour where the National Party dominates the council 5 to 4 despite none of the 5 identifying as National candidates people to their election. This was an abuse of democracy to the detriment of the local community. The only way to undo the stranglehold at Coffs Council is if a casual vacancy brought forth a non-national candidate prior to the next council election. So please consider this issue when you bring your bill forward.