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## Parliamentary Budget Officer Amendment Bill 2022

Amendments made by Legislative Assembly on 9 June 2022.

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No. 1 **Election policy costings for cross-bench members of Parliament**

Page 2. Insert after line 9—

### **Schedule 1      Amendment of Parliamentary Budget Officer Act 2010 No 83**

**[1]    The Whole Act, other than sections 3, 18, 19(1), 23 and 27**

Omit “parliamentary leader” wherever occurring.

Insert instead “member of Parliament”.

**[2]    Section 3 Definitions**

Insert in alphabetical order in section 3(1)—

*member of Parliament*—see subsections (4) and (4A).

**[3]    Section 3(4A)**

Insert after subsection (4)—

(4A) In this Act, except in subsection (4) and section 18(6), a reference to a member of parliament means—

(a) a parliamentary leader, and

(b) a member of Parliament who is not a member of the party or parties that form the Government or the Opposition.

**[4]    Sections 17(2)(a) and 22(1)**

Omit “that leader” wherever occurring.

Insert instead “the member”

**[5]    Section 18A**

Insert after section 18—

**18A Request for election policy costings by cross-bench MPs**

- (1) A member of Parliament, other than a parliamentary leader, may, in accordance with this Part, request the Parliamentary Budget Officer to prepare costings of publicly announced or proposed policies.
- (2) An election costing request may only be made in relation to 3 policies that are announced or proposed for implementation after the next State general election.
- (3) A member of Parliament may only make an election costing request in relation to a policy publicly announced or proposed by the member.

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- (4) An election costing request may relate to proposed changes in expenditure or revenue.
  - (5) An election costing request must—
    - (a) be in writing, and
    - (b) outline fully each policy to be costed, giving all relevant details for the purpose of costing the policy, and
    - (c) state the purpose or intention of the policy.
  - (6) For the purposes of this section, a policy is taken to be announced or proposed by a member of Parliament if it is announced or proposed by another member of Parliament on behalf of the member or on behalf of the member's party.

**[6] Section 19 When election policy costings to be requested**

Omit section 19(1). Insert instead—

- (1) Election costing requests are to be made by a member of Parliament after the operational plan prepared by the Parliamentary Budget Officer under section 14 has been approved by the Presiding Officers and tabled in each House of Parliament.
- (1A) A request by a parliamentary leader must be made in sufficient time before the State general election to enable the leader to comply with section 18(1A).
- (1B) A request by a member of Parliament, other than a parliamentary leader, must be made before 31 October.

**[7] Section 21 Parliamentary Budget Officer to prepare costings of election policies**

Omit "by that leader" from section 21(4).

Insert instead "by or on behalf of the member".

**[8] Section 27**

Omit the section. Insert instead—

**27 Nominee may act for members of Parliament**

A function of a member of Parliament under this Part may be exercised on the member's behalf by a nominee of the member, being a person nominated by the member from time to time by written notice to the Parliamentary Budget Officer.

No. 2 **Election policies costing**

Page 2. Insert after line 9—

**Schedule 1A Amendment of Parliamentary Budget Officer Act 2010 No 83**

**[1] Section 22 Public release of election policy costings**

Omit section 22(1). Insert instead—

- (1) The Parliamentary Budget Officer must, in response to an election costing request from a parliamentary leader, publish the following on a publicly available website maintained for the purposes of this section—
  - (a) the election costing request and

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- (b) the election policy costing.
  - (1A) The publication must occur on the earlier of the following—
    - (a) within 7 days after completing the costing,
    - (b) the fifth last day before the State general election is due to be held.
  - (1B) To avoid doubt, subsection (1) does not apply in relation to member of parliament that is not a parliamentary leader.

**[2] Section 22(3)**

Omit “provided”. Insert instead “published”.

No. 3 **Long title**

Insert “and the costing of election promises of cross-bench members of Parliament” after “Officer”.

No. 4 **Long title**

Insert “and the costing of election policies” after “Officer”.