

Rural and Regional Adjustment (Tourism and Hospitality Sector Hardship Grants Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2021

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, Mark Furner MP, Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities, provide this human rights certificate with respect to the *Rural and Regional Adjustment (Tourism and Hospitality Sector Hardship Grants Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2021* made under the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.

In my opinion, the *Rural and Regional Adjustment (Tourism and Hospitality Sector Hardship Grants Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2021* (the Amendment Regulation), 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 Amendment Regulation is made under the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.

The authorising law for the regulation is sections 3, 10, 11 and 44 of the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.

The Amendment Regulation establishes the Tourism and Hospitality Sector Hardship Grants Scheme (the Scheme) which is prescribed in schedule 38 of the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Regulation 2011*.

The objective of the Amendment Regulation is to enable the Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) to provide additional relief and support to eligible employing tourism and hospitality businesses and non-profit organisations, including to help them maintain employment for their employees in Queensland. Two grants of up to \$50,000 each will be available for eligible employing tourism and hospitality businesses and organisations that have experienced a reduction in turnover of at least 70 per cent for at least seven consecutive days between 1 July and 30 September 2021 (inclusive) compared to the same period in the 2018-19, 2019-20 or 2020-21 financial years or, if it has been operating for less than a year, another period QRIDA considers comparable. Alternatively, two grants of up to \$2 million each will be available to eligible major tourism experience operators who have experienced at least a 50 per cent reduction in turnover in the whole period between 1 July and 30 September 2021 (inclusive) compared to the same period in the 2018-19, 2019-20 or 2020-21 financial years or, if it has been operating for less than a year, another period QRIDA considers comparable.

The Scheme provides grants to eligible employing Queensland businesses and non-profit organisations significantly impacted between 1 July 2021 and 30 September 2021 by international and state border closures and intrastate movement restrictions imposed to contain the spread of COVID-19.

Human Rights Issues

Human rights relevant to the subordinate legislation (Part 2, Division 2 and 3 *Human Rights Act 2019*)

The Amendment Regulation has been considered with regards to the *Human Rights Act 2019* and it has been determined that no human rights are engaged by the Amendment Regulation.

Conclusion

I consider that the *Rural and Regional Adjustment (Tourism and Hospitality Sector Hardship Grants Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2021* is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* because it does not limit human rights.

MARK FURNER MP
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES
AND MINISTER FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

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