From: Alana James
To: LA Committees

Subject: Territory Coordinator submission

Date: Wednesday, 19 February 2025 4:50:14 PM

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Hello,

I am writing this submission to express my concern and opposition to the proposed Territory Coordinator Bill.

The Bill concerns me because of the extensive powers the Territory Coordinator would have to subvert due process and override important legislation and safeguards that exist in NT law.

This unprecedented centralisation of power is a huge overreach by a government that already has a majority within parliament, and the ability to protect democracy or damage it. I'm saddened that the Government has chosen to damage our democratic processes in the Territory, particularly as we already have a unicameral system and not the protections that a lower and upper house system would provide.

The laws that this legislation would allow the Territory Coordinator to override exist for a reason, and the Territory has laws that protect our way of life. I worry that with unprecedented power, the Territory Coordinator could green light projects that lead us to becoming yet another metro, built-up capital city with industrial and urban sprawl across the Territory - and a huge loss of what makes the Territory so unique.

The pursuit of economic prosperity at the cost of Territorians' lifestyle, health, safety, and environment is short-sighted and poor leadership.

As a Territorian, I urge the NT Parliament and Scrutiny Committee to reconsider the scope of this bill and the precedent this sets for democracy and process in the Northern Territory.

I do not believe this bill gives sufficient regard to the rights and liberties of individuals (as it provides a platform for overriding protections of Territorians and their way of life) and I do not believe it gives sufficient regard to the institution of Parliament (as it is inherently an anti-democratic piece of legislation).

Thank you, Alana James

Alana James