

Submission to NT Parliament Against the Implementation of the Territory Coordinator

Concerns Surrounding the Proposed Bill

Threat to Democratic Processes

The implementation of the territory coordinator poses a significant threat to democratic processes. By centralizing decision-making authority, it undermines the democratic principles that ensure diverse representation and accountability in governance. Not to mention, the CLP might have majority in the legislative assembly, but less than 50% of Territorians voted for them. This centralisation removes the democratic process of representation of our political system and therefore the

The powers granted by this bill represent an overstep, centralizing decision-making authority into the hands of only a few individuals. This concentration of power diminishes the checks and balances that are essential for fair and transparent governance.

The bill supports the appointment of an unelected bureaucrat, which is antithetical to the democratic values of representation and accountability. Elected officials should be the ones making decisions that affect the territory, not appointees without a direct mandate from the people.

One of the most concerning aspects of this bill is the removal of the need for public consultation. Public input is vital for ensuring that legislation reflects the will and needs of the populace. Bypassing this process erodes public trust and participation in government.

Risks to Legislation on Water, Environment, and Fossil Fuel Industries

This bill puts crucial legislation concerning water, the environment, and fossil fuel industries at risk. By prioritizing economic gains over environmental stewardship and sustainable practices, the bill jeopardizes the long-term welfare of the territory's natural resources. There is substantial evidence to suggest that fracking and agribusiness do not improve economic outcomes for the vast majority of Territorians. Instead, these industries pose significant environmental risks and do not provide sustainable economic benefits to the local population. The bill's emphasis on economic prosperity above the needs of Territorians is misguided. While economic development is important, it should not come at the expense of the well-being and rights of residents. We disagree with the elevation of economic interests over the immediate and long-term needs of the people.

Conclusion

I strongly oppose the implementation of this bill and urge the assembly to remove it from existence. The bill is in direct opposition to the rights and liberties of individuals in the NT, and its enactment would be a disservice to the democratic principles and environmental sustainability that we value.