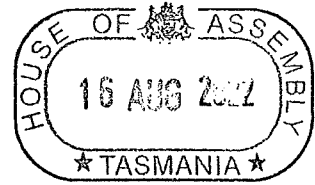


RESPONSE TO PETITION

Petition No PET22-2-HA

House of Assembly



The Petitioners ask the House to:

The petition of the undersigned citizens of Tasmania draws to the attention of the House that your petitioners were distressed by the sudden reduction of the size of the House of Assembly from 35 to 25 members on July 23 1998 immediately before an election, and that the petitioners have suffered a decline in the quality of governance as a consequence of the reduction of the House of Assembly.

Your petitioners, therefore, request the House to restore forthwith the size of the membership of the House of Assembly to 35 members, so as to restore both the quality of Government and the confidence of the petitioners in the Government of Tasmania.

Government Response

- Our priorities as a Government are focused on strengthening Tasmania's future and making Tasmanians' priorities our priorities – improving outcomes in health, housing and education. Keeping Tasmanians safe and taking action on the cost of living, while also investing to continue the growth in our economy, which has occurred under this Government.
- But when things need fixing, we need to have the courage to fix them.
- This is one of those issues that we have long supported in principle and as Premier, I have outlined publicly our intention to take action.
- The Tasmanian Liberal Government will introduce a Bill by the end of this year (2022), to restore the numbers from 25 to 35 seats in the House of Assembly with five electorates of 7 members. This would come into effect at the next state election.
- Because ultimately this is about ensuring the Tasmanian Parliament remains in the best shape to deliver the best outcomes for Tasmanians.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Price", is written over a faint, illegible printed name.

16 August 2022