



MEDIA RELEASE

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TCCI calls for more MPs and new electorates in size of Parliament shake up

The Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry is calling on the Premier to commit to significant reform of Tasmania's Parliament.

"The number of resignations lately shows that the current system is broken," TCCI CEO Michael Bailey said.

"The workload is just not sustainable and we are seeing too many people forced to walk away from serving the community. That is in no one's interests, least of all the business community in Tasmania that is looking for stable government and strong leadership.

"The Premier has announced he wants to expand the size of Parliament back to 35 members in the House of Assembly and we welcome that. However, we want the Government to lead a conversation with the community about what an expanded Parliament should look like.

"On behalf of business in Tasmania, the TCCI is calling on the Government to move to a seven-electorate model, with each electorate having five members.

"We believe this model would increase representation and ensure that regional communities can have their voices heard. Seven smaller electorates would better serve distinct regional communities. For example the challenges facing Queenstown and Roseberry on the West Coast are very different to the challenges faced in Devonport, yet those communities are all part of the same electorate.

Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

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Importantly, we believe this model will ensure we can continue to have stable government.

“Additionally, we would like to see the *Constitution Act 1934* updated to allow for more ministers and more parliamentary secretaries to share the load.

“Ultimately this is the TCCI view. I have no doubt that others have different views, but we need the Government to lead the community conversation so that everyone can have their voice heard and a clear pathway is outlined.”

The TCCI policy paper on restoring the size of Parliament is available at www.tcci.com.au