

FACT SHEET

Electoral Amendment (Legislative Council Ballot Papers) Bill 2015 **(Bill No. 36)**

- The purpose of this Bill is to amend the *Electoral Act 2004* to provide for equitable and consistent arrangements for independent candidates, with respect to the Ballot Papers, in Legislative Council elections commensurate with those arrangements presently in place for a candidate of a registered political party in Legislative Council elections.
- The Bill will achieve those objectives by:
 - Ensuring that a candidate in a Legislative Council election, who is not the endorsed candidate of a registered Party, states in his or her nomination whether or not they want the word “independent” to appear on the ballot paper under their name;
 - Ensuring that if a person does state that he or she wants the word “independent” to appear on the ballot paper under his or her name, then the word “independent” is to appear on the ballot paper immediately under the name of that candidate.
 - Not applying this amendment to a Legislative Council election where a writ for the holding of that election has been issued before the commencement of this amendment.