

## FACT SHEET

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### ***Integrity Commission (Members of Parliament) Bill 2021***

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On 10 June, 2021 the Greens received correspondence from the Integrity Commission that advised that the *Integrity Commission Act 2009* does not apply to Members of Parliament between the dissolution of a relevant House in which that Member is a Member, and the declaration of polls.

Between these two periods a Member of Parliament is no longer a Member of Parliament.

However, while an incumbent may no longer be a sitting Member of Parliament, they still retain benefits that the office confers. These benefits include staffing and resource allocations, formal and informal influence during the caretaker period, access to electoral rolls, and general community influence.

This bill amends the *Integrity Commission Act 2009* to ensure that an incumbent Member of either House of Parliament remains a Member of Parliament for the purposes of the Act during an election –

- Between the vacation of their seat and nomination day; and
- If the person contests the election as a candidate, between nomination day and polling day.

This amendment bill ensures that an incumbent contesting an election, who retains numerous benefits of office, is still accountable under the *Integrity Commission Act 2009*.