SAVING TERRITORIANS FROM UNNECESSARY RED TAPE

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The Country Liberals Government is focussed on assisting Territorians to buy and sell homes by limiting the red tape involved.

The Sale of Land (Rights and Duties of Parties) Repeal Bill 2013 introduced in Parliament today will stop Labor’s misguided and unworkable vendor disclosure legislation from coming into effect.

Attorney-General John Elferink said while noble in its intentions, this legislation would have done nothing to assist those selling or buying a home in the Territory.

“This legislation would have had the opposite effect – it would have put significant pressure on Territorians wanting to sell their homes and greatly increased the time the process takes,” Mr Elferink said.

“There are already measures in place to protect both the seller and buyer. This legislation would have unnecessarily increased the amount of required paperwork.

“In some cases, this would have also affected the price of the house due to the additional reports that the seller would be required to obtain.

“The legislation was touted as a way to stop gazumping. In truth, it would have done nothing to stamp out this unethical behaviour.

“The former Labor government used this legislation to appease the Independent Member for Nelson in its effort to stay in power, but it obviously wasn’t a priority. Labor sat on the Act for two years and only moved to Gazette the Bill when the Government was in its death throes.

“The Country Liberals Government suspended the legislation in September 2012, before it had come into effect and had a negative impact on Territorians.

“This is an example of the Country Liberals Government having to clean up another Labor mess.”

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