

2022

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Foreign Ownership Reform (Security of key assets) Bill 2022

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of 12MaxWild)

General outline and financial impact

Foreign ownership reform

The Act restricts foreign governments and state owned companies from owning or possessing critical infrastructure, such as:

- Ports; and
- Railroads; and
- Airports; and
- Any other key asset determined to be vital to national security by the discretion of the Attorney General.

The act restricts foreign companies to owning more than a 30 percent share in key assets as determined by the Attorney General. Note that Key Assets can have partial foreign ownership whereas critical infrastructure cannot.

Date of effect: Upon Presidential Assent

Financial impact: This measure is not estimated to have a direct measurable financial impact on the Commonwealth.

Human rights implications: This Bill does not raise any human rights issues.