

press clip



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### BRIBIE ISLAND

## Free legal help under threat from funding cuts

BRIBIE Island could lose free legal help, as federal funding is set to be reduced this year.

James Farrell, from Community Legal Centres Queensland, said the Federal Government would cut

funding to community legal centres by 30 per cent from July 1.

"Overall, community legal centres are helping

75 per cent more people in Bribie than we were five years ago," he said.

Pine Rivers Community Legal Service visits the Bribie Island Neighbourhood Centre each month to provide free legal help with family law, domestic violence and consumer law.

"Our experience in this community shows there are people with legal problems

that just aren't able to access legal help," CEO Laurence McMahon said.

A spokeswoman for Attorney-General George Brandis said the Govern-

ment was providing more than \$1.6 billion for legal aid, community legal centres and indigenous legal assistance until 2020, as well as \$45 million for "frontline legal assistance services for victims of family violence".