To hold a by-election would be a waste of public funds and will be an invitation to political mercenaries to appear from the cold.

BY MEIRER LI CHON DE ROZA

The absence of one member may entail the loss of mandate from the people, says Dr Ong Boon Hwee, an MP, in a letter to The Straits Times.

The key is whether the voters in a ward will be short-changed, and the more under-strength a GRC is in terms of MPs, the more that is likely to be the case.

Dr Ong Boon Hwee

THE absence of one member may entail the loss of mandate from the people, says Dr Ong Boon Hwee, in a letter to The Straits Times.

Dr Ong, a former professor and Nominated MP, said in a letter to The Straits Times that the absence of a member from the political equation due to death or resignation could be short-changed, and that the voters in a ward will be short-changed, and in terms of MPs, the more that is likely to be the case.

The letter was in response to a query from The Straits Times on whether there were any circumstances under which the GRC scheme would have to be changed.

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