

Honorary President: **Rohan Webb** General Secretary: **Ros McLennan** Assistant General Secretary: **Michael Clifford**

8 February 2016
Research Director
Committee of the Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir/Madam

QCU submission to Committee of the Legislative Assembly in relation to the review of the parliamentary committee system.

Unfortunately the QCU has not been in a position to formulate a lengthy submission in relation to the review of the parliamentary committee system.

A brief discussion between Melissa Salisbury, Principal Research Officer, Ethics Committee and Committee of the Legislative Assembly and John Martin, Research and Policy Officer, Queensland Council of Unions was eloquently noted by Ms Salisbury as follows:

- this government and the previous government have required extraordinarily short turnaround times for making a submission;
- the quality of the QCU's submissions is consistent with the time in which they are given to provide them; and
- Otherwise, the process works well, but the turnaround times for submissions to be made could be improved to improve the quality of submissions made.

As such, we would request that as much time as possible be allowed to provide submissions to the various parliamentary committees.

We would reiterate the absolute need for such a process in a unicameral system to ensure public scrutiny of, and expert input into, proposed legislation. This acts as some form of check and balance against dictatorial, vindictive and/or inadequately formulated legislation.

Yours faithfully,



Michael Clifford

Assistant General Secretary