

Media Release

Public hearing on the Parliamentary committee system



Committee System Review Committee

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(Sunnybank)

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(Southern Downs)

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SECRETARIAT

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A parliamentary committee will hold a public hearing as part of an inquiry into how the parliamentary committees system can be improved.

The hearing will be held in the Parliamentary Annexe, Alice Street, Brisbane on Friday 20 August 2010 from 8.30am.

Witnesses include the Parliament's Speaker, Hon John Mickel MP, and the Clerk of the Parliament, Mr Neil Laurie. (A copy of the public hearing program is attached.)

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The Committee System Review Committee is conducting an inquiry into how Parliamentary oversight of legislation could be enhanced and how the committee system could be strengthened to enhance accountability.

The committee is considering the effectiveness of various changes introduced in early 2009, which include the establishment of a number of portfolio-based committees with an increased policy role.

The Committee is to report to the Parliament by **31 December 2010**.

For further information about the Committee and its work contact the secretariat on **(07) 3406 7174**, or visit www.parliament.qld.gov.au/csrc.

Hon Judy Spence MP Chair

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee was established by the Queensland Parliament on 25 February 2010. It is conducting an inquiry and will report on how the Parliamentary oversight of legislation could be enhanced and how the existing Parliamentary Committee system could be strengthened to enhance accountability. The resolution establishing the Committee goes on to provide that:

In undertaking this inquiry, the Committee should consider –

- *the role of Parliamentary committees in both Australian and international jurisdictions in examining legislative proposals, particularly those with unicameral parliaments;*
- *timely and cost effective ways by which Queensland Parliamentary Committees can more effectively evaluate and examine legislative proposals; and*
- *the effectiveness of the operation of the committee structure of the 53rd Parliament following the restructure of the committee system on 23 April 2009.*

The committee should include in its report options on models for structuring the Queensland Parliamentary Committee system.

[See: Queensland Parliament Record of Proceedings (Hansard), 25 February 2010, page 540.]



PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE

Dandiir Room, Parliamentary Annexe

Friday, 20 August 2010

Session Time	Witness
8.30 am – 9.00am	Hon Kevin Rozzoli AM (via teleconference)
9.00 am – 9.30 am	Hon John Mickel MP Speaker of the Queensland Parliament
9.30 am – 10.00 am	Mr Neil Laurie Clerk of the Parliament
10.00 am – 10.30 am	Morning Tea
10.30 am – 11.00 am	Dr Paul Reynolds Honorary Research Fellow Queensland Parliament
11.00 am – 11.20 am	Dr Jim Rawson OAM Queensland Representative FamilyVoice Australia