



Committee Secretary
Community Support and Services Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

SUBMISSION - QUEENSLAND VETERANS' COUNCIL ACT 2021

The RAR Association Queensland Branch welcomes the opportunity to provide its veteran community comment on the Queensland Veterans' Council (QVC) Act 2021.

The Act focusses the Veterans' Council on the management of, in order: Anzac Square, ANZAC Day Trust, and "Other Matters."

BACKGROUND TO RARA

[The Royal Australian Regiment Association](#) (RARA) is an incorporated Company which functions as the peak representative body of its constituent members (both veterans and their families of the RAR State/Territory and Battalion Associations/Corporation and current serving members of the RAR and their families) to the Australian Federal and State Governments.

The RARA is a founding member of the [Alliance of Defence Service Organizations \(ADSO\)](#)

RARA has been represented on the Queensland Veterans' Advisory Council since its inception by Ted Chitham and more recently by Kel Ryan.

Queensland has the greatest number of serving ADF and their families than any other Australian State/Territory. It is also the most popular State for veterans (and their families) transitioning into civilian life.

OVERALL COMMENT

This Act proposes the consolidation of a number of separate related Veteran organisations under one statutory body to achieve greater administration efficiencies and benefit for the veteran community.

Each of those veteran organisations has differing roles and legal status that requires specific governance skills.

The Act's solution seems to assume that the experience needed to manage ANZAC Square is the same as that required to manage the ANZAC Day Trust and to advise government on veteran matters.

While supporting of the QVC concept, the RARA is concerned that the Act in its present form fails the Queensland veteran community by:

1. Not recognising that the experience needed to manage ANZAC Square, to manage the ANZAC Day Trust and to advise the government on veteran people matters is different.
2. It's governance structure that means the advice to government from veterans and veteran organisations via a veterans' reference group, is filtered by the QVC comprising 6 non-veterans and 2 veterans, thereby excluding the appointed veteran members from having a majority vote when it comes to decision making on matters that specifically affect their well-being.

ENDORSEMENT

The RAR Association endorses the DFVAQ submission.



DFVAQ Submission
Qld Parliament - Veter

Ted Chitham

18th May 2021

Queensland Representative

The Royal Australian Regiment Association.

Gallipoli Barracks

Enoggera Qld 4051

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<https://www.rarnational.org.au/>

