

From: [clayton bray](#)
To: [Finance and Administration Committee](#)
Subject: RE: Public Holidays
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2015 9:51:27 AM
Attachments: [CCI060715.pdf](#)

From: [REDACTED]
To: fac@parliament.qld.gov.au
Subject: Public Holidays
Date: Tue, 7 Jul 2015 12:31:36 +0800

Gday,

I am writing this in regards to the timing of public holidays in Queensland.

I have attached the letter I received in response to an email I sent to the Honourable Curtis Pitt. The response I must say was completely underwhelming.

A document titled "Holidays and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012" outlines all of the points that I was trying to make. To quote such lines as "To more evenly distribute public holidays throughout the year it is considered that the Queens Birthday public holiday should be returned to its original date of observance and the Labour Day public holiday should be moved to the second half of the year".

Also " Moving the Queens Birthday public holiday back to its original date of observance in June will better align Queensland public holidays with those of other states. ALL states (except for Western Australia) observe the Queens Birthday public holiday on the second Monday in June" and "Moving the Labour Day public holiday from the first Monday in May will break up a concentration of public holidays that occur in the April-May period (ANZAC Day, three Easter public holidays, Labour Day) and more evenly distribute public holidays throughout the year. The amendments to the Act in 2011 which relocated the Queens Birthday public holiday to October has done little to alleviate that concentration of public holidays or diminish disruptions to production and services for business and industry resulting from the concentration of public holidays/long weekends falling in quick succession in the first half of the year".

These are the same points I am trying to make now. To say in the response letter that "the move also responds to the preferences expressed by the Queensland community in 2011

which showed overwhelming support for shifting the Queens Birthday from June to the second half of the year" seems to be a bit of a stretch and I would like to see where this was expressed. In the Amendment Bill it was noted that a "considerable proportion of comments were received at the time of the 2011 review and subsequently advocating the movement of Labour Day rather than the Queens Birthday" which totally contradicts the response letter statement.

It seems to be more of a case of political one upmanship as there is no logical reason to concentrate public holidays in such a short space of time. It also makes Queensland the only state on the East Coast of Australia without a June public holiday. This puts Queensland out of touch yet again and is a step backwards. It would be appreciated by the business community and the general public if common sense could prevail in this matter.

Kind Regards

Clayton Bray

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