

7 July 2015

Reference: 702125

Finance and Administration Committee
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Email: fac@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Inquiry into the Holidays and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015

I write with reference to the above and acknowledge receipt of your letter received at this office on 12 June 2015. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Council would object to the change of the Queen's birthday holiday from June to another date.

In regard to the Labour Day holiday Council offers no objection to the changes considered unless it would directly impact the Queens Birthday Holiday. Whilst it is convenient to have a holiday at the end of the year if Labour Day was again moved to May this would have no material impact to our community.

The movement of the Queen's Birthday weekend from June would have a detrimental impact both socially and economically. For example 2015 has again seen another successful running of the Gayndah Orange Festival. This community festival has been conducted over 50 years and coincides with not only the Queens Birthday long weekend but also the citrus season. It is a major tourism and economic event for our region. The movement of the Queens Birthday long weekend would have a significant negative impact on this event.

Council is aware of other long term events, for example the Cooktown Discovery Weekend, which utilise this public holiday and is the major festival in the region. Council strongly advocates to the committee to not change the Queen's Birthday long weekend date.

If you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on 1300 696 272. Please quote reference **702125**.

Yours faithfully



MJP/pitt
Chief Executive Officer

Address all correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer