



5 June 2017

To: Committee Secretary  
Acting Committee Secretary  
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000

Email: [lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Colleague

**Re: Submission on the *Criminal Law (Historical Homosexual Convictions Expungement) Bill 2017* ("the Bill")**

**BACKGROUND**

1. I write to you to as the President on behalf of the Association of Labor Lawyers QLD (Inc) ("LLQ").
2. LLQ is a group of lawyers, professionals, students and advocates who aim to assist the Australian Labor Party in the implementation of progressive platforms and policies which help to achieve social justice, and as a body of lawyers, we are also concerned with the Rule of Law and protection of human rights.
3. The proposed amendments by the *Criminal Law (Historical Homosexual Convictions Expungement) Bill 2017* ("the Bill") which also makes amendment to the *Child Protection Act 1999*, *Family Responsibilities Commission Act 2008* is strongly supported by LLQ.
4. LLQ thanks the Australian Labor Party of Queensland for presenting this landmark Bill that recognises and acknowledges autonomy of sexual choice of consenting adults in our community.
5. As recognised by The Honourable Attorney-General Yvette D'Ath in the First Reading Speech<sup>1</sup> the journey of these amendments commenced with the late Wayne Goss, former Premier of Queensland, and who was from 1979 to 1983 a founding executive member (and President) of our association.
6. The recognition and correction of past wrongs for those who have suffered prejudice and embarrassment under oppressive and unfair legislation that criminalised sexual preferences reflects our current community and legal values today - a community that is inclusive, and one that values freedom of choice and autonomy of sexual preferences.
7. It is a testament to Goss' ideals, and the continuing consistency of recognition of individuals fundamental rights since he broached the issue those years ago, that we can submit to today that we wholeheartedly support the Bill and commend it to the committee, and the government for full bi-partisan support.
8. We thank you for your consideration and invite you to contact Ms Kylie Hillard on [REDACTED] if you have any queries or if you require further information.

Yours Sincerely,

**Kylie Hillard**  
**President, Association of Labor Lawyers QLD (Inc)**

**Postal Address**

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<sup>1</sup> 11 May 2017