



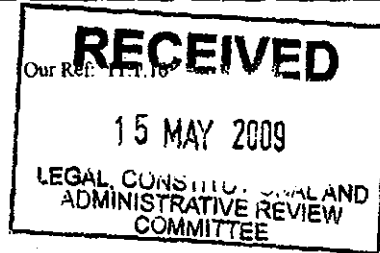
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee

LEGAL CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE
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Your Ref:

7 May 2009



SURELY THERE ARE
FAR MORE IMPORTANT
MATTERS FOR YOUR
COMMITTEE TO BE
CONSIDERING THAN THIS
RE THE REFORM OF
QUEENSLAND'S BROKEN SYSTEM OF
DEMOCRACY

Professor K Wiltshire AO
JD Story Professor of Public Administration
University of Queensland Business School
University of Queensland
BRISBANE QLD 4072

Dear Professor Wiltshire AO

Call for submissions - a preamble for the Queensland Constitution and modernisation of oaths and affirmations

On 23 April 2009, the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee of the Queensland Parliament received a referral from the Parliament to:

- draft a preamble for the Queensland Constitution; and
- develop options for modernising the oaths and affirmations in the Queensland Constitution.

The Committee is seeking input from the public to assist in its inquiry.

A preamble

In relation to the preamble, the referral is in identical terms to a referral to the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee of the previous Parliament. That referral lapsed upon the dissolution of the Parliament prior to the state election earlier this year.

In summary, the referral requires the Committee to:

- develop a draft preamble for the Queensland Constitution;
- include in the draft an aspirational statement on the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the establishment of Queensland; and
- include a statement of due recognition of the state's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The new Committee has resolved to have regard to all submissions received by the previous Committee.

K Wiltshire

Modernising of oaths and affirmations

The new referral also requests the Committee to “develop options for modernising” the oaths or affirmations of allegiance contained in the *Constitution of Queensland 2001*.

Before undertaking the duties of their office, an oath or affirmation of allegiance (in terms set out in Schedule 1 of the Constitution of Queensland), must be taken by:

- Members of Parliament
- Governors and Deputy Governors
- Ministers
- Members of the Executive Council
- Judges

Submissions

Please find **enclosed** a copy of the current oaths as contained in the Constitution and a copy of an issues paper and call for submissions produced by the current Committee. The issues paper incorporates guidelines on making a submission.

The Committee is seeking submissions from the public on the preamble and on how the oaths and affirmations can be modernised and we invite you to make a submission.

Please note that the Committee is required to report to the Legislative Assembly by 6 June 2009 and **submissions close on Monday 18 May 2009**.

We would also appreciate your passing our call for submissions on to anyone you believe might be interested in this issue.

If you have any queries regarding this inquiry, please contact the Committee’s secretariat on (07) 3406 7307 or by email lcarc@parliament.qld.gov.au. Further information about the Committee and its work, including Committee publications is available at www.parliament.qld.gov.au/lcarc.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



Barbara Stone MP
Chair