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Genevieve Molineux

From: Harvey Clarkson [mailto:harveyclarkson@qld.gov.au]
Sent: Sunday, 17 May 2009 11:00 PM
To: LCARC
Subject: Submission to Qld Constitution
Attachments: preamble 17509.doc

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Thank you for the two separate copies of the covering letter dated 7th May 2009 enclosing each time, Issues Paper. These mailings were received two days apart.

See attachment for my submission.

17th May 2009

Submission on Preamble for the Queensland Constitution

There is no need for a Preamble to the above Constitution.

The reasons and decisions for there being no Preamble that were made back in June 2004 still apply. Especially now in the current financial crises, Government should not be wasting time and money on such unnecessary minor matters when there are urgent problems arising every day. This is especially pertinent when the Premier is now considering removing the fuel subsidy. If the budget is so bad, working on a Preamble is an insult and inexcusable, no matter what any Review Committee has decided.

Issues 1 & 2 -Furthermore, as Kevin Rudd has apologized to the Aboriginal & Torres Strait people on behalf of the Australian people, this matter is now closed. Everyone should move on and stop living in the past. We are all Australians!

The larger diverse ancestry of Queensland's current population has altered many things. It would be stupid to quote or name any ethnicity given the wide diversity of people's ancestry now and in the future.

It would be hypocritical to mouth off about 'respect to the land' when it is obvious Governments of all levels, do not! Developers are given permission to wipe out bushland, low land and minor waterways all in the name of progress, regardless of the environmental sustainability of projects.

A Preamble would open a can of worms for litigation and excuses for bad behaviour.

The Queensland Constitution should be able to stand on its own, without a Preamble. If it doesn't, it is not worth the paper it is written on.

Australia is an independent country and Queensland its own identity within the Commonwealth. Thus the Commonwealth Constitution should have precedence over the State to protect and ensure the rights and freedom of all citizens despite ancestry or individual beliefs.

A final decision whether a Preamble be included in the Constitution should rightly go to the people as a Referendum where every voting citizen is fully aware of the reasons for holding it.

Issue 3 - Modernisation of the Oaths or Affirmation of Allegiance.

The current wording should NOT be changed. It covers all exigencies!

Mrs Jocelyn Clarkson

(resident since 1970) Ph

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4075 (Resident at this address since 1970).