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15 JUN 2009

Law, Justice and Safety
Committee

202

8th June 2009

Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee
Queensland Parliament

To the above Committee

I believe the above Committee has been commissioned by the premier of Queensland to draft a preamble to the new Queensland Constitution 2001, and also to develop options for modernising the oaths and affirmations in the above Constitution.

Your committee is the same outfit that pontificated on the Queensland Constitution 2001, without any open discussion, public awareness or a referendum. The reason for this has the intention of giving a rubberstamp and a hint of respectability to allowing the government to do exactly as it likes. If you were not concerned with opening the discussion about changes to the Constitution 1867, why bother about the preamble to your new constitution?

There has been no public outcry relating to either the preamble to the constitution or any change to the oaths. This exercise appears to have been instituted by the government politicians themselves. The next question is "who is to benefit" from any changes?

The present oath taken by members of the legislative assembly is:
I.....do sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as lawful Sovereign of Australia and to Her heirs and successors, according to law; and I will well and truly serve the people of Queensland and faithfully perform the duties and responsibilities of a member of the Legislative Assembly to the best of my ability and according to law. So help me God!

The premier took this oath when she took her place in the Legislative Assembly. Indications are that she did not mean a word of it because of her failure to abide by it. This oath is in fact her "duty statement". It is plain that she has failed to fulfil her obligations to the Queensland people. If the "oath" is to have any power and be worth anything there has to be a process implemented whereby those who break it have to pay a heavy penalty!

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If this Committee has any intestinal fortitude at all it would do well to come up with such a penalty and the required power to enforce it without interference from parliamentary members. If you can't, it will only enforce the belief amongst most Queenslanders that this State is an elected "Dictatorship."

The premier, in her characteristic, brutal and dictatorial way, under her self confessed dictates of undisclosed entities is now attempting to emasculate the oaths to make herself the font of all authority instead of GOD.

The gathering of people's submissions to assist in this endeavour is but a smoke screen. A theatre meant for the public consumption of those who are informed and for those uninformed, a pure exercise in futility.

It is not expected that there will be further ongoing, informed public discussion as the track record in this area speaks for itself. We expect change to occur without general knowledge. Just remember your part in the "Treason."

Susan Meredith

From: Nanango Electorate Office
Sent: Monday, 15 June 2009 8:42 AM
To: LCARC
Subject: FW: Late submission
Attachments: Legal Constitutional & Admin.doc

Good morning,

Attached please find a late submission on the preamble for the constitution from Susan Meredith.

For a great many people, of which Susan is only one, the period between receiving notification and the date of closure for submissions was too short to be able to give the matter serious consideration. Susan has decided to press ahead and we ask that you will take her submission into account.

Yours sincerely

Val Wicks (Electorate Officer)
For Dorothy Pratt MLA
Independent Member for Nanango
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Web: <http://pratt-mp.webs.com>

From: Susan Meredith
Sent: Sunday, 14 June 2009 7:46 PM
To: Nanango Electorate Office
Subject: Late submission

Dear Mrs Pratt,

Please help! I'm sorry to bother you, but I do not trust my local member (I did not vote for him) and was hoping you would advise me on this matter.
I would like to submit my thoughts regarding Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee's draft preamble to the QLD constitution. It is attached.

It seems the committee called for submissions in Feb 2009 and closed the date for submissions on the 13th March 2009.

I consider this a ridiculously short time frame and would still like to send my document.

Can you help?

Thanks and regards,

Susan Meredith