From: webmaster@parliament.qld.gov.au

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To: Law, Justice and Safety Committee

Subject: ONLINE SUBMISSION - Inquiry into a new Local Government Electoral Act

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Divisions (Question 1 to 5):

1) No. Townsville currently has no divisions so to have an issue addressed I need to conntact all councillors. To placate ratepayer anger Townsville has defacto divisions. Divisions should be mandated by the Act.

2) No. Townville has defacto divisions when the majority of ratepayers want divisions with one councillor to a division. This will make it clear who is the local council point of contact and who to hold responsible for action or inaction in any area of a city.

3) Yes

4) Cities and amalgated areas containing two or more towns or communities of common interest should have divided councils with one councillor per division, and be mandated by the Act

5)

Conduct of elections (Question 6 and 7):

6) The Electoral Commission of Qld should be responsible for the administration of the quadrennial local government elections

7) The current system is not broken. Do not try and fix what is not broke.

Conduct of elections (Question 8 and 9):

8) Yes

9) None. The current system stops manipulation by a council or mayor.

Candidates - requirements and conduct (Questions 10 to 15):

10) Yes

11) Yes

12) Yes

13) Yes

14) No

15) No, the Mayor should be elected by the ratepayers.

Candidates - requirements and conduct (Questions 16 to 19):

16) Yes

17) Yes

18) Yes

19) Fund raising activities should be legal, ethical and morally acceptable

Candidates - requirements and conduct (Questions 20 to 24):

20) Yes.

21) Yes

22) Uniform sized signage (corefluets) one only, with photo, party or organisation membership, an emblem (optional) and point of contact.

23) Yes, a uniform maximim limit should be set for each candidate.

24) Yes. The day before and the day of the election. To allow the electors to consider their vote free from media bombardment.

Voting (Question 25):

25) Voting should remain compulsory for local government elections. Citizens in a democracy must be active to make the democratic process work. For many voting is the only time the citizenery get involved. Further while a very small proportion will spoil their vote in protest compulsory voting gives a more accurate result of the peoples wishers.

Voting (Questions 26 to 30):

26) No. The current system is appropriate

27) Remote areas and absentee voters.

28) No

29) Voters should be able to vote in any division of the city or town in which they live or if out of town be permitted to vote absentee in another location with in the state of Qld.

30) Should permit absent voting with in the state of Qld. Postal or pre-poll vote is outside the state, overseas or infirmed.

Voting (Questions 31 to 35):

31) Elections should be extended to non-resident property owners who Australian citizens.

32) Owners not lessees.

33) The majority owner but only if the majority owner has 51% or more.

34) One vote per division only.

35) Queensland Electoral Commission

Voting systems (Questions 36 to 38):

36) Compulsory Preferential voting. This system of voting is the only system that gives an accurate majority result when there are many candidates and many independent candidates.

37) No. Compulsory Preferential voting will give an accurate result regardless of the number of candidates be it 2 or a dozen.

38) No

Other (Question 39):

Other) The practice of political parties putting up false "independant" canditates who are in fact not independant but are there to split votes and direct preferences. This was done by the failed Mooney Labor team (at the last Townsville election) which contained nominally independant canditates who were Labor Pary members before the election and returned to the Labor Party when they were unsuccessful. A candidate must be who and what they are with no falsehoods.

12/07/2010