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**From:** webmaster@parliament.qld.gov.au  
**Sent:** Monday, 12 July 2010 9:48 PM  
**To:** Law, Justice and Safety Committee  
**Subject:** ONLINE SUBMISSION - Inquiry into a new Local Government Electoral Act  
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**Name:** Lawrence Molachino  
**Email:**  
**Address:**  
**Suburb:**  
**Postcode:**

**Divisions (Question 1 to 5):**

- 1) No comment.
- 2) No comment
- 3) No comment.
- 4) No comment.
- 5) Hinchinbrook Shire has a population of about 12,500 and about 8000 electors. It is undivided for election purposes.

**Conduct of elections (Question 6 and 7):**

- 6) Yes, provided the costs of administering the council elections are reduced from the high costs incurred in the 2008 council elections.
- 7) No.

**Conduct of elections (Question 8 and 9):**

- 8) Yes
- 9) Elections should be held in October instead of March, to give incoming councillors more time to review budgets etc.

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

- 10) Yes
- 11) No. Councillors in the Hinchinbrook Shire are part time and history shows that many canegrowers stand for election as they can afford the time away from their farms. Whereas, persons who are employed cannot get the time off to be a councillor. All councillors should therefore be full time.
- 12) Yes
- 13) Yes
- 14) Yes. You may have very experienced and excellent councillors stand for Mayor, and as only one can be successful, you lose valuable candidates.
- 15) No. The local electors should have the opportunity to elect that person they believe is best suited for the Mayoral position.

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

- 16) Yes
- 17) Yes

18) Yes

19) Yes

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

20) Yes

21) Yes. No, candidates should provide how-to-vote cards.

22) Corflute advertising is fine.

23) No.

24) Yes. Some candidates may have more funds than others and I believe that is unfair advantage.

**Voting (Question 25):**

25) No.

**Voting (Questions 26 to 30):**

26) No.

27) Yes. Large rural areas.

28) No.

29) Hinchinbrook Shire is an undivided Shire.

30) No

**Voting (Questions 31 to 35):**

31) No

32) No

33) No

34) No

35) Local Council.

**Voting systems (Questions 36 to 38):**

36) First-Past-The-Post. If you have, for example, 6 councillors, then the voters are essentially voting for their preferred candidates by simply placing the numbers 1-6, or 6 ticks or 6 crosses against their preferred candidate.

37) Yes.

38) No comment.

**Other (Question 39):**

Other) Nil