

## Media Release

### A Preamble for the Queensland Constitution?

The people of Queensland are being invited to engage in a dialogue about whether the Queensland Constitution should contain a preamble and, if so, what such a preamble should state.

The Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee of the Queensland Parliament has released an issues paper calling for public submissions about a preamble to the Queensland Constitution.

“Everyone should have a say,” urges committee Chair, Dr Lesley Clark MP. “A preamble acts as an introduction to a constitution and is generally symbolic, aspirational or inspirational in nature. In Queensland, it could symbolise and affirm widely-held values, such as equality before the law or the unique status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.”

Dr Clark says that the committee’s review follows recommendations by the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission. That Commission recommended a preamble describing our constitutional regime and affirming “certain widely-held values”. However, the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee has not reached any conclusions – it would like to hear from the people of Queensland.

To ensure that the committee is able to consider the views of as many Queenslanders as possible, submissions may be made on-line at the committee’s website. The committee will also undertake an innovative program of community engagement before it reports to Parliament.

The committee’s issues paper is available on its website, or from the committee secretariat.

Dr Clark is available for interviews on 0412 117 742. For background information, contact Kerry Newton at the committee secretariat on 3406 7909.



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The Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee is a committee of the Queensland Parliament with a broad range of law reform responsibilities. The committee is established under the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (Qld).