

No 40



**RECEIVED**  
25 AUG 2004  
LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW  
COMMITTEE

**Rosa Lee Long MP**  
Member for Tablelands  
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24/08/04

The Research Director  
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000

[lcarc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:lcarc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir,

**RE: Preamble to the Queensland Constitution.**

I write to register my total opposition to the introduction of a preamble to the Queensland Constitution, unless passed by a referendum of all eligible voters in the State of Queensland.

The addition of a preamble now, some 150 years after the Queensland Constitution was first put in place, could change the meaning of some or all of its meaning and give powers to the Government which the people of Queensland may not want it to have.

The existing Queensland Constitution has served the people of this State for approximately one and a half centuries and provides sufficient power for Government to legislate for the benefit of Queenslanders. I see no reason to change it now. The States of New South Wales and South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory have no preamble in their current Constitutions, so Queensland is not the only State without one.

Please accept this and the following questionnaire as my submission to the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee's review regarding the insertion of a preamble to the Queensland Constitution.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Rosa Lee Long'.

Rosa Lee Long MP  
Member for Tablelands.

24 JUN 2004



LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE  
REVIEW COMMITTEE

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**A PREAMBLE FOR THE QUEENSLAND  
CONSTITUTION?**

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**Feedback form**

This feedback form can be used to make a submission. Submissions may also be made in another form such as a letter. If additional space is required for responding to issues, please insert supplementary pages with reference to the issue being addressed.

The release of the issues paper, with the committee's call for submissions, is the first stage in the committee's review of the recommendations of the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission regarding a preamble for the Queensland Constitution.

**Mail to:** The Research Director  
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George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

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**ISSUE 1 (refer page 6)**

Should the Queensland Constitution contain a preamble?

No

**ISSUE 2 (refer page 7)**

Should the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission draft preamble be adopted in Queensland?

N/A

**ISSUE 3 (refer page 9)**

What purpose should a preamble to the Queensland Constitution serve?

N/A

**ISSUE 4 (refer page 9)**

What type of language should the preamble use?

N/A

**ISSUE 5** (refer page 9)

How extensive should the preamble be?

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N/A.

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**ISSUE 6** (refer page 9)

Should the Queensland Constitution specifically state that the preamble cannot be used to interpret other provisions of the Constitution?

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N/A.

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**ISSUE 7** (refer page 10)

Should there be a reference to the origins or history of the Constitution in the preamble?

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N/A

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**ISSUE 8** (refer page 10)

Should the preamble refer to the sovereignty of the people and, if so, how?

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N/A.

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**ISSUE 9 (refer page 11)**

Should the preamble refer to God and, if so, how?

N/A

**ISSUE 10 (refer page 12)**

Should the preamble recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and, if so, how?

N/A

**ISSUE 11 (refer page 13)**

Should the preamble recognise cultural diversity and, if so, how?

N/A

**ISSUE 12 (refer page 13)**

Should the preamble recognise the rule of law and, if so, how?

N/A

ISSUE 13 (refer page 14)

Should the preamble refer to 'equality' and, if so, how?

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N/A.

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ISSUE 14 (refer page 14)

Should the preamble refer to gender equality and, if so, how?

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N/A.

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ISSUE 15 (refer page 14)

Should the preamble recognise the status of the Constitution and, if so, how?

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N/A.

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ISSUE 16 (refer page 15)

Should the preamble recognise the system of government the Constitution establishes and, if so, how and to what extent?

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N/A.

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**ISSUE 17 (refer page 15)**

Should the preamble refer to the environment and, if so, how?

N/A

**ISSUE 18 (refer page 15)**

Should the preamble contain other elements and, if so, what should they be?

N/A

**ISSUE 19 (refer page 17)**

How might text be developed around the identified elements of a preamble?

N/A

**ISSUE 20 (refer page 17)**

How should the community be consulted in this process?

N/A

ISSUE 21 (refer page 17)

Who should be consulted?

N/A.

ISSUE 22 (refer page 18)

Should a referendum be held to insert a preamble into the Queensland Constitution?

N/A.

ISSUE 23 (refer page 18)

Should an 'interim' preamble to the Queensland Constitution be inserted by way of an Act of Parliament prior to a final version being confirmed by way of a referendum?

N/A.

ISSUE 24 (refer page 18)

When is an appropriate time to consider a referendum on the issue of a preamble for the Queensland Constitution?

N/A.