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LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND  
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COMMITTEE

## 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.

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ISSUE 1 (refer page 6)

Should the Queensland Constitution contain a preamble?

Yes, so as to support the Queensland constitution.

ISSUE 2 (refer page 7)

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

Only if presented to the people for their approval via a referendum.

ISSUE 3 (refer page 9)

What purpose should a preamble to the Queensland Constitution serve?

To strengthen the QLD constitution in presentation of factual information.

ISSUE 4 (refer page 9)

What type of language should the preamble use?

The Queens English, as this is where our constitution has come from confirming our ties with the British "Westminster system" of Government, which has served us well.

ISSUE 5 (refer page 9)

How extensive should the preamble be?

Brief. As brief & to the point as possible.

ISSUE 6 (refer page 9)

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

No

ISSUE 7 (refer page 10)

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

Yes

ISSUE 8 (refer page 10)

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

Yes. It should restate that the machinery of Government is an instrument whose duty it is to carry out the will of the people.

ISSUE 9 (refer page 11)

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

Yes as per the existing wording 'whereas the people of Australia, humbly relying on the blessing of almighty God.'

ISSUE 10 (refer page 12)

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

No. all the peoples of Australia should be treated equally.

ISSUE 11 (refer page 12)

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

No. It should only recognise the Australian culture as it is known and respected ~~the~~ throughout the world.

ISSUE 12 (refer page 13)

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

Yes. People living in Queensland are bound by laws made by the QLD state & Commonwealth Parliaments since federation.

ISSUE 13 (refer page 14)

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

Yes by declaring we respect the equality of all people living in Queensland.

ISSUE 14 (refer page 14)

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

No, as stated previously, all those living in Queensland should be treated equally.

ISSUE 15 (refer page 14)

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

Yes, it should be clearly stated that the Constitution is the ultimate law of Queensland and subject to the Australian Constitution & its inherent laws.

ISSUE 16 (refer page 15)

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

Yes, the people of Queensland elect representatives and it should be restated that the wishes of the people should prevail.

**ISSUE 17** (refer page 15)

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

No

**ISSUE 18** (refer page 15)

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

No keep it brief & concise

**ISSUE 19** (refer page 17)

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

The text shall be approved by the people at a referendum, whatever the text evolves to be read.

**ISSUE 20** (refer page 17)

How should the community be consulted in this process?

YES.

**ISSUE 21** (refer page 17)

Who should be consulted?

Each and every voter.

**ISSUE 22** (refer page 18)

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

Yes, definitely.

**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?

No there is not a need for this.

**ISSUE 24** (refer page 18)

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

When the appropriate text has been established and at the next election.