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LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND
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COMMITTEE

25th August 04

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The Research Director
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Fax No. 07 3406 7070

Dear Sir

G. P. Shanks.

I. P. SHANKS.
VOTER.

24 JUN 2004



LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

A PREAMBLE FOR THE QUEENSLAND CONSTITUTION?

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?

No

ISSUE 2 (refer page 7)

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

No

ISSUE 3 (refer page 9)

What purpose should a preamble to the Queensland Constitution serve?

None

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?

It is not NECESSARY.

ISSUE 6 (refer page 9)

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

YES.

ISSUE 7 (refer page 10)

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

NO

ISSUE 8 (refer page 10)

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

NO

ISSUE 9 (refer page 11)

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

We are a christian
State - YES.

ISSUE 10 (refer page 12)

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

YES. The extent of their
occupation and their culture
and art and language.

ISSUE 11 (refer page 12)

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

"Acknowledge" not "recognise".
We are all Queenslanders.

ISSUE 12 (refer page 13)

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

No. The constitution IS
the law. It needs no
preamble.

ISSUE 13 (refer page 14)

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

No.

ISSUE 14 (refer page 14)

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

No. Just to Queenslanders.

ISSUE 15 (refer page 14)

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

This question is ridiculous. The status of the Constitution is paramount.

ISSUE 16 (refer page 15)

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

Again a ridiculous question.
The Constitution is paramount.

ISSUE 17 (refer page 15)

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

It could mention the state of the environment in 1859 and how much it has been degraded since then.

ISSUE 18 (refer page 15)

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

No

ISSUE 19 (refer page 17)

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

There is no need for a preamble

ISSUE 20 (refer page 17)

How should the community be consulted in this process?

By due process of law; a Referendum.

ISSUE 21 (refer page 17)

Who should be consulted?

The voters of Queensland.

ISSUE 22 (refer page 18)

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

Yes.

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.

ISSUE 24 (refer page 18)

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

At election ^{time} would be less costly for Queensland taxpayers.