he Queensland Retired Police Association

Telephone (07) 364 6877

(Meeting Place: The Queensland Police Club Incorporated, Makerston Street, Brisbane.)

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12 November, 1997

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

Dear Sir,

THE PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL'S RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS.

I write to you at the direction of our Management Committee.

We are appreciative of the opportunity to forward a submission on the above matter to the LCARC, however the question 'Should Queensland adopt a Bill of Rights' has never been debated within our Organisation and because of time constraints we are not in a position to respond. Nevertheless our concerns are more directed towards the preservation and enhancement of the Rights of Police Officers who, over recent years, have seen their rights eroded and are now probably one of the most discriminated groups in Queensland. Officers are often placed in double jeopardy and denied natural justice. They are indeed a disadvantaged group of people in our Society.

We note that your Committee will be making recommendations in due course and possibly could arrive at a decision that a Bill of Rights encompassing every citizen in Queensland is not to be the preferred option but rather other measures should be introduced for the protection and enhancement of the rights and freedoms of some distinguishable disadvantaged groups.

Should the latter be the case, my Organisation would be grateful to be advised. We would dearly appreciate making a submission on any proposed Bill which would identify the problems encountered by Police and enhance their rights in this State.

Yours faithfully,

J.A. CUMMINS HONORARY SECRETARY