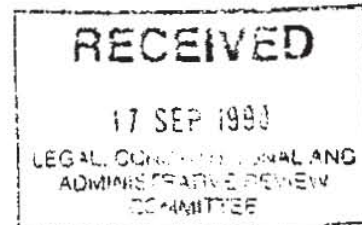


D.W. & J.A. Ellingsen,



16 September 1998

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

Submission No 17
Spec 34 - 7

Dear Sir

Re: **Submission in reference to report No 10 of May 1998 on the Consolidation of the Queensland Constitution**

I understand that changes have been recommended to be made to the Queensland Constitution. If this is to be done without a referendum, it would be contrary to what is stated in the Queensland Constitution Act of 1867-1988 in Section 53 (1). I refer to the "Requirement for Referendum", which states:

"A Bill that expressly or impliedly provides for the abolition of, or alteration in, the office of Governor or, that expressly impliedly, in any way affects, any of the following sections of the Act, namely Sections 1, 2, 2A, 11A, 11B, 14 and this Section 53, shall not be presented for assent by or in the name of the Queen, unless it has first been approved by the electors in accordance with this Section, and a Bill so assented to consequent upon its presentation in contravention of this subsection shall be of no effect as an Act."

It seems that these laws are used only when it suits. We, the Australian public, are made to abide by them, even when some of them seem ridiculous, but when it suits, the Parliamentarians try to pull the wool over our eyes and dismiss the rules when it comes to something they want to change. These changes are intended to be made and no-one will be any the wiser. Unfortunately, for you there are people who are familiar with the Constitution and are watching every move you make and reporting it to "nobodies" like myself in the hope of preventing this deception.

My question is, does anyone that works there read and understand the Constitution? If so, abide by it and call a referendum before making any changes. If it costs too much money to do that, leave it as it stands. The Australian public is sick of one set of rules for Parliamentarians and another for us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Ellingsen".

Judy Ellingsen