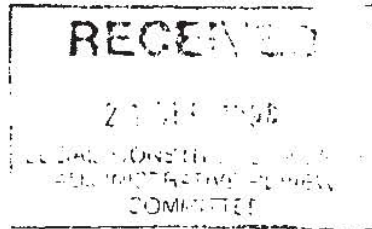


Submission No 26
Spec 3-4.



Darryl Venz,

Monday, September 21, 1998

To the members of the:
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee

Please pass on my thanks to your staff who were very prompt in sending a copy of you report.

I can understand the need for 'modernization' and the collation of all information pertaining to the constitution, and the enormity of the task before you. Nevertheless, below are some concerns that I have with the document. They are not exhaustive by any means, as I have not had time to devote to the task of researching matters fully.

I believe that ANY amendment to the Constitution of Queensland requires a referendum, regardless of where the document is gleaned, and the 'antiquity' of the language. Consequently, I have grave concerns over such decisions as the deletion of things such as the preamble mentioned on Page 6 of Part 2 in your document. Any such action makes your entire task unconstitutional.

As humans we all have only one Sovereign (like it or not), and Christians acknowledge that Sovereign as GOD. I totally reject the idea of having ANYBODY or anything take God's rightful place as Sovereign. Similarly, any Heads of State must currently swear an Oath of allegiance and Oath of Office. If these Oaths are removed as suggested there may be a tendency to agree to what is popular, not what is right. In other words, I feel these oaths or affirmation spoken by Office bearers make themselves more accountable, and so would be careful that decision are more right, rather than popular.

Additionally, the committee has gone beyond their 'terms of reference' as admitted in the report. What now concerns me is the fact that Government may make these wholesale changes law, and due process has not been followed. I have seen some documentation that has been earmarked for deletion, and I believe they contain some fundamental rights of the public, or place some important protective restrictions on those in government.

As you can see, I can offer no solutions to my concerns, except that the whole process be done properly.

Yours truly,

Darryl Venz