

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



Submission Against The Consolidation of The Queensland Constitution.

I wish to lodge my strong objection to the proposed changes of The Queensland Constitution.

Among my concerns are;

Part 1- Page 1. 1. ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE. "...the Committee's inquiry not extend to recommending any major changes of substance to the current Constitution."

Part 1- Page 10. 4.2. BRINGING THE RELEVANT CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS TOGETHER. "There are two distinct areas where the Committee has clearly made major changes of substance."

This example alone, is indicative of the Committee not adhering to its own resolution. To say that any major substance changes will not be recommended, and then to say that major changes have been made, is, at best description, a **contradiction**.

Part II- Page 3. Clause 4. " ...minimal stylistic changes are made which do not in any way affect the provision. Reference to *Her Majesty* is replaced by reference to *the Sovereign* in cl 4. This replacement is repeated in cl 5 and in other clauses of the Bill which represent existing provisions that currently refer to the *Queen* or *King* or *Her* or *His Majesty*. "

It seems totally unrealistic to say that stylistic changes would not have any affect. The word 'Sovereign' has a completely different meaning to the words 'Queen' or 'King' or 'Her Majesty' or 'His Majesty'.

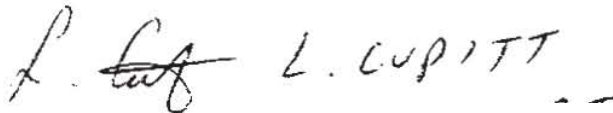
Section 53. **Certain measures to be supported by referendum.** (1) of the Constitution Act states, "A Bill that expressly or impliedly provides for the abolition of or alteration in the office of the Governor or that expressly or impliedly in any way affects any of the following sections of this Act 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."

In short, Section 53 states that parts of the Constitution relating to the Governor and Her Majesty, including Section 53 itself, must not be changed without public approval in a referendum, and if such a Bill is passed, it shall be of no effect as an Act.

I object to all proposed changes to Section 53 and point out the requirement for a referendum.

Yours Sincerely,

 L. CUPITT