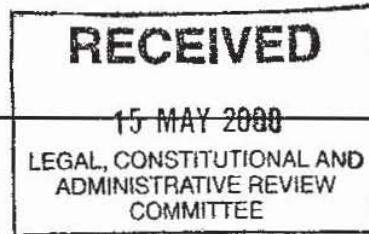


From the Mayor's Office

**Cr Eddie Santagiuliana J.P.**  
Redland Shire Mayor



8 May, 2000

*Submission NO 44  
Spec 28.1*

Our Ref: ES:gp:jd  
File No: 190/005/002  
Contact: Gary Photinos

Mr Gary Fenlon MLA  
Chair  
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Mr Fenlon

Thank you for the invitation to comment on the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission's recommendation 5.2 relating to the maximum term of the Queensland Legislative assembly being extended to four years with a fixed minimum period of three years.

Due to the short period of time provided to comment, a formal resolution of my Council has not been possible, therefore I offer you my comments as Mayor.

An informal discussion with my Councillors has indicated unanimous support for your recommendation. However, this support is only offered if there is a mandatory fixed term period of not less than 3 years.

As you are aware, Local Government has now been given a mandatory four-year term where greater stability can be provided to our local communities. This stability will only be reinforced if we could secure greater stability with the State Government and this can be achieved with a minimum fixed term for Parliament. There may also be some benefit in increasing the reserve powers of the Governor to overcome any difficulties that may occur within the fixed three-year period.

I also strongly support entrenchment provisions. The notion of a minimum fixed term in a new four-year term can only be guaranteed with these provisions being entrenched in the constitution. The ability to change the minimum fixed term period by statute defeats the purpose of moving to four-year terms. However difficult it would be for the government of the day to change the minimum period, political opportunities will not be overlooked if there is discretionary power to change these provisions.

The support for Parliamentary four-year terms is therefore conditional on a minimum fixed term period of not less than three years and both of these provisions being entrenched in the constitution.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eddie Santagiuliana".

Cr Eddie Santagiuliana  
**MAYOR - REDLAND SHIRE**

cc: Manager Policy & Legislation (G. Photinos)

Redland Shire Council, PO Box 21, Cleveland 4163  
Home: 60 South Street Cleveland, 4163  
**Ph: Bus: 3829 8623**      **Home: 3286 1926**  
Mobile: 0417 761 277      Fax: 3829 8781

