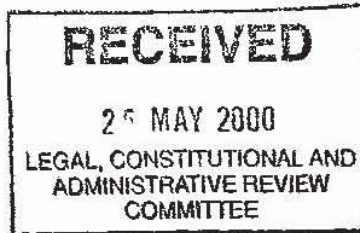


Submission No 10



Brian Sheehy

Spec 29.11

23rd May 2000.

The Chairman
Legal Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee
Parliament House ,
George St.
Brisbane. 4000.

Dear Sir,

I believe that the proposal by the Committee to split the acceptance of the Queensland Constitution into two parts, that is two separate Bills to handle different topics is confusing and almost underhanded.

A Constitution is a Constitution, or a so called Constitution is unworthy of the name.

I vehemently oppose the suggestion that some portions of a Constitution may be altered by a chosen few, and other portions may be altered only by a majority of the Members of the Association.

A Constitution for Queensland must belong to all Queenslanders, be accepted by all Queenslanders in Referendum, and then only able to be altered by Referendum of all Queenslanders.

Should the above proposition be real, and I believe it is, then at some stage in the future, the Queensland Constitution must be presented in total to the Queensland Public in Referendum. for acceptance or rejection.

It is almost a snide approach to deal with only some parts of a Constitution, at this stage, when it is known that at some future time the Queensland Constitution will have to pass the acid test of acceptance at Referendum.

Or are we to understand that the committee is bowing to the dictates of their Political Masters to recommend alterations which will surrender more power to them now, and leave the rest to later, much later.

There is no argument that would convince the majority of Queenslanders that the Queensland Constitution should not belong to them.

This is no longer the 19th century, when the majority of people could neither read nor write. It may have been good enough then but is hardly realistic today.

To this end the Committee should make the recommendation to the Parliament that some of our money be allocated to educate all Queenslanders in all aspects of the benefits of updating, rewriting a new Constitution for our Sunshine State.

In doing so, perhaps one of the first jobs for the Committee to attend to, is for definitions to be written for Titles such as :

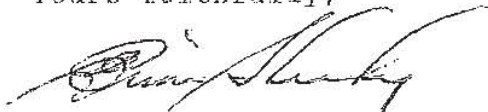
Premier - Executive Council - Governor-in-Council -
Cabinet - Parliamentary Secretaries etc.

These explanations, together with a further definition of how these positions are filled and the powers attaching to them, would be of immeasurable help.

I find it interesting that none of these definitions are included in POSITION PAPER (APRIL 2000), which is supposedly presented 'to facilitate the committee's call for public submissions on those QCRC recommendations which the committee considers as consolidatory and/or relatively non-controversial in nature'.

Over the longer term the Committee's recommendation should include, that the Education Programme be structured to ensure that following a deluge of information, similar to the deluge of information in support of the G.S.T., Public Meetings be held in **every community** across the State to secure the confidence of the people, by way of acclamation, of the proposed new Constitution.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Brian Sheehy', written in a cursive style.

Brian Sheehy.