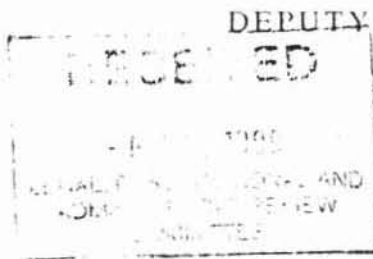




Tasmania

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



DEPUTY PREMIER

Submission No 49

1 JUL 1999

Dear Mr Fenlon

Thank you for your letter of 5 May 1999 seeking input into your Committee's inquiry into the *Transplantation and Anatomy Bill 1998*. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I am aware that my colleague, the Minister for Health and Human Services, Hon Judy Jackson MHA has written directly to you on this matter and note her support for the general intent of the Bill.

Having considered the Bill and the second reading speech, I am mindful that enactment of this legislation would have a number of potentially major operational implications for licensing authorities that need to be carefully considered. A driver's licence would become not only a legal document for the purposes of licensing a person to drive, but also for the purposes of regulating organ donation.

This would imply a much more rigorous administration of licence application and renewal processes relating to organ donation declaration. This raises issues including:

- the need for extensive public education programs;
- careful consideration of the management of the transition from the current system where a licence marked "organ donor" is simply advisory, to the new system where such a notice is legally binding;
- possible extended access to the licensing authority databases with attendant security implications; and
- resource implications for licensing authorities associated with the effective management of the organ donation notification process.

I trust these comments are of assistance to your Committee's deliberations and thank you for the opportunity to have input into this clearly important inquiry.

Yours sincerely

Paul Lennon  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Infrastructure, Energy and Resources