



Spec 2.1

PREMIER

EXECUTIVE BUILDING .. 100 GEORGE STREET .. BRISBANE QUEENSLAND 4000
TELEPHONE (07) 3224 4500 FACSIMILE (07) 3221 1496

- 3 MAR 1998

Mrs Judy Gamin MLA
Chairman
Legal Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mrs ^{Judy}~~Gamin~~

I refer to Report No 4 of the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee entitled "Truth in Political Advertising".

The Government has given careful consideration to the recommendations of your Committee, and in particular its favourable conclusion that it is possible to legislate in respect of truth in political advertising.

In addition, the Government has also considered the proposed section 163A set out at page 54 of the Report and has determined to introduce relevant legislation into Parliament during the forthcoming Parliamentary session. This legislation will, in substance, reflect and adopt the recommendations contained in your Committee's Report.

I take this opportunity to congratulate your Committee on this Report; the recommendations of which, will, hopefully, improve political discourse in Queensland.

Yours sincerely

[Original Signed]

Rob Borbidge
Premier



QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT

ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

In reply please quote: Legal 97/8675

16 OCT 1997

LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

20 OCT 1997

Mrs Judy Gamin MLA
Chairman
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE Q 4000

Dear Mrs Gamin,

I refer to the report of the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee No 4 of 1996, concerning Truth in Political Advertising.

Pursuant to section 24(5) of the *Parliamentary Committees Act 1995*, I am required, as Minister responsible for the *Electoral Act 1992* and associated legislation, to table a final response within six months of the report being tabled.

I apologise for the delay. It was occasioned by the heavy commitment of departmental staff to the progress of priority legislation and the nature of the report which has as an annexure, a dissenting statement by three Committee members.

The lack of consensus by Committee members has highlighted the complexity of the issues the subject of the inquiry.

In the time frame allowed for providing this, my final response, it has not been practicable to resolve those issues and define a specific course of action in respect of each recommendation.

However, I can advise that the recommendations of the report are now under active consideration by the Government with a view to identifying an appropriate legislative solution.

Yours sincerely

[Original Signed]

DENVER BEANLAND MLA
ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND
MINISTER FOR JUSTICE



QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT

ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

SPEC 02/02

In reply please quote: Legal 97/4240

22 MAY 1997

Ms Judy Gamin ML.4
Chairman
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Judy Gamin ML.

Dear Ms *Judy,* Gamin

I refer to the report of the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee No 4 of 1996, concerning Truth in Political Advertising.

I note that pursuant to s 24(4) of the *Parliamentary Committees Act* 199.5, as Minister responsible for the *Electoral Act* and associated legislation, I am required to table a response within three months of the report being tabled.

Unfortunately this could not be done within the time allowed and thus I must make use of s.24(5) which allows an interim response within three months, followed by a final response within six months. I apologise for the delay in making this interim response.

I am of the opinion that further consideration must be given to this issue in light of your Committee's report and the dissenting report of three Committee members. In particular, the dissenting report has raised serious issues about the difficulty of enforcement of the recommended provisions and the possible politicisation of the Queensland Electoral Commission.

The three month time limit has not been met due to the full commitment of my staff to the preparation and passage through the House of important draft legislation during the last parliamentary session.

I am, however, endeavouring to have the requisite level of resources committed to making an appropriate final response.

I apologise again for the delay in response.

Yours sincerely

[Original Signed]

DENVER BEANLAND MLA
ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND
MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

18th Floor State Law Building 50 Ann Street Brisbane GPO Box 149 Brisbane Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone (07) 3239 3478 Facsimile (07) 3220 0289



SPEC 07/01
* SPEC 02/02

ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

Our ref: 96M 001780:DF

19 DEC 1996

Mrs Judy Gamin MLA
Chairman
Legal Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee
Legislative Assembly of Queensland
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 3000

Dear Mrs Gamin

Thank you for your letter of 9 December 1996 concerning the Electoral Act Amendment Bill 1996 and the report, "Truth in Political Advertising".

It is my intention to proceed with this Bill upon presentation to Parliament of the appropriate report from the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee. The measures it contains are uncontroversial and I would envisage the Bill recurring bipartisan support.

As the passage of the Bill would clarify the operation of the Electoral Act I believe this matter should proceed as quickly as possible.

On the other hand the notion of truth in political advertising is somewhat controversial as evidenced by the divisions within the Committee over its reports recommendations. I would be reluctant to allow the current machinery amendments to be delayed by debate over the truth in advertising issue.

Accordingly, I favour separate consideration of the latter issue and the current Bill proceeding in its present state.

Yours sincerely

[Original Signed]

DENVER BEANLAND MLA
ATTORNEY-GENERAL
AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

24 DEC 1996

✓
iNZ
Spec 02/02