



Speech by
**Mr DENVER
BEANLAND**

MEMBER FOR INDOOROOPIILLY

Hansard 16 November 2000

LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr BEANLAND (Indooroopilly—LP) (10.20 a.m.): This State and this nation's electoral processes have, over decades, operated on a basis of trust. That trust has been betrayed and destroyed by the Australian Labor Party. No longer is voter self-regulation, which the former speaker referred to, good enough. It is interesting to note that, in the submissions received by the committee in connection with the inquiry and report, the Australian Labor Party was the only submitter opposed to voter identification. It is obvious that a very large degree of sophistication and a high level of organisation have become part of the fraudulent manipulation by the ALP of electoral rolls and the electoral process. This has been done to such an extent that the outcomes of the 1995 and 1998 State elections have now been called into question, as have the outcomes of at least two Federal elections.

No longer can this Parliament allow this issue to be whitewashed and the problem relating to this State's corrupted electoral rolls to continue. This State cannot go to the next election without the cleansing of the ghost voters from the electoral rolls. It is imperative that confidence be restored to the electoral process. Failure to do so will strike at the very heart of democracy in this State and the liberty of the people. The Premier has to give a guarantee to this Parliament that prior to the next State election appropriate amendments will be made to the Electoral Act to ensure that there is a cleansing of the electoral roll of Queensland to remove all those fraudulently enrolled, that proper identification of voters will be required when people go to vote and that there will be identification of potential voters during the enrolment process. That can be arranged with the Australian Government, which has already held discussions about this matter with the Queensland Government and the Australian Electoral Commission.

The closure of rolls on the day that an election is called is imperative because, as we have noted in the report, a great deal of fraudulent activity is carried on between when the election is called and the actual closure of the rolls. It is every citizen's duty to be on the roll. When people move from one address to another, one of the things they ought to do is re-enrol and make sure that their enrolment is up to date. It is up to the Electoral Commission to ensure that an appropriate awareness process is in place in order that people are aware of their responsibilities. Surely that is not too much to ask.

Labor's reply, however, is to sweep this whole issue under the carpet, to whitewash the processes. Hence, Labor has come up with its only solution—a supercomputer based on the discredited Australia Card, except that in this case there is no card. The electoral process in this State is so corrupted and the way in which the corruption occurs is so sophisticated and organised that that supercomputer will achieve little but put in place a Big Brother—and it certainly will establish a Big Brother.

Time expired.
