

**Question on Notice  
No. 698  
Asked on Tuesday 22 May 2007**

MR ELMES asked the Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport (MR FRASER) –

**QUESTION:**

Will he give a guarantee, in the event the State Government proceeds with local government amalgamations, that he will not force any local authority to amalgamate if ratepayers of that council vote not to do so?

**ANSWER:**

The answer is explicit in the provisions of the Local Government Act, as amended during the debate in the Parliament in April in which the Member for Noosa participated.

I would point out the following to the Member for Noosa:

- No referendums are provided for the determination of boundaries for state and federal elections: indeed the boundaries of the seat the Member will contest at the next election will be determined by an independent commission.
- The previous Coalition government inserted a clause into the Local Government Act that provided for the Minister for Local Government to overturn any referendum that may have been held.