

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.