

**Government's Final Response to the
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee's
Report No. 46 – A preamble for the Queensland Constitution?**

The Committee's Recommendation

The *Constitution of Queensland 2001* should not contain a preamble at this stage.

The Government supports the Committee's recommendation.

Given the apparent lack of public support for a preamble, concerns as to how a preamble should or might be used to interpret the Constitution, and other concerns raised by the Committee, there is insufficient justification for the Government to seek to include a preamble in Queensland's Constitution.

Furthermore, as noted by the Committee, there is continuing debate in the community regarding a republican system of government in Australia. Any change to a republican system of government would require significant constitutional amendment to both Federal and State constitutions. It is likely that this would include amendment of any preamble to the Queensland Constitution.

While finalising the constitutional reform process is desirable, it would be impractical to undertake this type of reform while the prospect of a change to a republican system of government remains on the agenda. Accordingly, it would be appropriate to delay the question of a preamble until the issue of an Australian Republic has again been put to the people.