

Media Release



Legal, Constitutional and
Administrative Review Committee

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(Mudgeeraba)

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SECRETARIAT

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A Queensland parliamentary committee is holding a public hearing to explore improvements to State elections for Queensland's contemporary community.

Date: Monday, 24 November

Time: 10.00am – 2.00pm

Venue: Undumbi Room, level 5,

Parliamentary Annexe, Alice St, Brisbane

The public hearing is part of the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee's *Inquiry into Certain Contemporary Electoral Matters*. For this inquiry the Committee is examining the law and administrative procedures of the Queensland parliamentary electoral system in terms of providing free, honest and fair elections for Queensland's contemporary community.

The public hearing is open to members of the public who are invited to watch the Committee at work as it obtains evidence from experts in the electoral field, and advocacy groups on behalf of Queensland's diverse community. A complimentary morning tea and a light lunch will be provided.

Witnesses include David Kerlake, Electoral Commissioner for Queensland; Antony Green, Election Analyst for ABC; Professors John Pyke, Paul Reynolds, and Emeritus Professor Colin Hughes; Mike Horan MP; and representatives of Queensland Aged and Disability Advocacy Inc, and the Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland.

Committee Chair, Mrs Dianne Reilly MP, said that the Committee has received around 20 submissions in response to its issues paper. The Committee has also held citizens' forums in Cairns and Mackay where a range of views and ideas on potential improvements to the electoral system were suggested by regional Queenslanders.

"We expect interesting views and suggestions from the witnesses to add to the Committee's findings so far. There are some areas we feel that we need further information before we report to the Legislative Assembly in March next year. To obtain this further evidence we have invited witnesses from diverse backgrounds which we hope will result in alternative perspectives for the Committee to consider.

"The public hearing will give Queenslanders a chance to see how the all-party Committee works together to gather evidence and make practical, achievable recommendations that we believe will improve Queensland's State electoral system." Mrs Reilly said.

The Issues Paper and further information about the Committee and its work can be viewed on the Committee's website at www.parliament.qld.gov.au/LCARC.

If you would like to attend the public hearing as an observer, please contact the Committee secretariat on (07) 3406 7307 or email lcarc@parliament.qld.gov.au to register.

END

Media enquiries:

The Committee will allow media access to the public hearing.

If you would like to attend, or to interview Mrs Dianne Reilly MP, please contact the secretariat on (07) 3406 7307.