



# Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: *ES/AT – TF/10/12457 – DOC/10/76114*

**21 JUN 2010**

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Thank you for your letter of 21 May 2010 concerning petitions 1442-10 and 1449-10 about daylight saving, presented by the Member for Maryborough, Mr Chris Foley MP, and received by the Parliament on 19 and 20 May 2010.

Daylight saving in Queensland is an important issue affecting all parts of our State, and I am grateful to Queenslanders for providing such a strong response to this debate.

As you are aware, the Member for Nicklin, Mr Peter Wellington MP, has introduced a Bill to the Parliament which proposes a referendum on the issue of daylight saving for South East Queensland (SEQ) only.

As all Members of Parliament would have to vote on the proposal, the Government resolved to ask Queenslanders what they thought of Mr Wellington's idea.

As a result, I asked Members of Parliament to consult with their communities and provide feedback on whether or not Queenslanders supported holding a referendum or trialling this proposal. In addition, I set up a website to obtain people's views.

The results of the online survey showed that the majority of those who responded supported a trial and a referendum on split time zone daylight saving. From the total responses received, there were 63% who supported a referendum, and 64% who supported a trial.

However, the online survey results also clearly showed that Queenslanders living in regional areas were opposed to any proposal to split the State into two time zones. The responses showed that almost 65% of respondents from outside SEQ were not supportive of a referendum, and 76% were not supportive of a trial.



**Queensland  
Government**

The details on all of the feedback to the online survey can be viewed on the website at [www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au/daylightsaving](http://www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au/daylightsaving).

The feedback Members of Parliament received from their electorates also confirmed that the idea of a split state is unacceptable for regional Queenslanders, with more than 85% opposed to a referendum and 93% opposed to a trial.

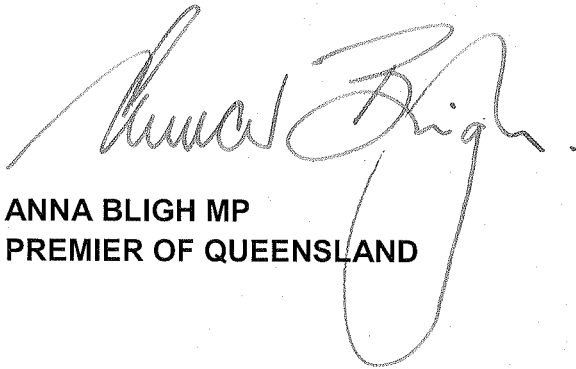
While I can see the benefits daylight saving would have for people living in the South East corner, the Queensland Government is committed to governing for all parts of the State. I do not believe it would be appropriate to disregard the views of regional Queenslanders.

Regardless of what side of the argument a person supports, what is clear is that the community is extremely passionate about this issue.

In response to the petitioners though, I can advise that the Government will not be supporting Mr Wellington's proposal for a referendum.

I would like to thank the petitioners for participating in the daylight saving debate, and for bringing their views to the attention of the Parliament.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Bligh', with a large, stylized flourish extending downwards from the end of the signature.

**ANNA BLIGH MP  
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**