



Hon Lawrence Springborg MP  
Minister for Health

- 3 DEC 2012

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Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliamentary Service  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition number 1886-12, tabled in Parliament on 30 October 2012, in relation to the mandatory fluoridation of water supplies in Queensland.

As some petitioners would be aware, the Government had proposed amendments to the *Water Fluoridation Act 2008* to expand the grounds under which Local Governments could apply for an exemption from the requirement to fluoridate their drinking water supplies. The Government had also proposed to clarify which water supplies would be eligible to apply for an exemption.

On further consideration, the Government has decided to bring forward amendments to the Water Fluoridation Act that will see the removal from the Act of the mandatory obligation to implement fluoridation of drinking water supplies in Queensland.

These amendments will now ensure that the decision on whether to fluoridate a water supply can be made by Local Government; and it will be Local Government's obligation to determine what is 'in the best interests of the community' when deciding whether to fluoridate or not.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely



LAWRENCE SPRINGBORG MP  
Minister for Health