



Premier of Queensland
Minister for the Olympics



Brisbane 2032
Olympic and Paralympic
Games Host
Queensland



For reply please quote: CAPS/AT – TF/22/16765 – DOC/22/196687
Your reference: A960943

11 NOV 2022

Mr Neil Laurie
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to Petition 3711-22 requesting a change to Queensland's system for law making which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 12 October 2022.

My Government supports Queensland's current constitutional and parliamentary system within which laws are made by the democratically elected Legislative Assembly with the assent of the Governor, or in the case of subordinate legislation, made by the Governor in Council acting with the advice of the Executive Council.

Therefore, we do not support any system of citizen-initiated legislative veto petitions as envisaged in Petition 3711-22.

The petitioners may wish to note that integrity, accountability and proper consultation in law making processes are key principles my Government has been following since taking office in February 2015. Queenslanders have every right to voice their opinions on laws or any other matter of their choosing.

Bills introduced into the Legislative Assembly by my Government are routinely referred to a Parliamentary Committee for inquiry before they can be further debated. As part of their inquiries into Government ills, Parliamentary Committees call for public submissions, hold public hearings, question witnesses and generally gather as much information as possible, including feedback from the public, on the Bill. From the information gathered, the Parliamentary Committee will then prepare a report to the Legislative Assembly on the Bill, outlining recommendations to the Government.

My Government also regularly conducts its own consultation processes on Bills before they are introduced, and consults the public on other matters requiring a decision by the Government.

The petitioning of the Parliament process, for example as exercised by the petitioners in this case, is another process that enables citizens to voice their opinion on issues, with Ministers required to respond to the petitioners about the matters raised.

Queenslanders can also voice their opinions on matters by contacting Ministers and other members of the Legislative Assembly, government departments and other entities via correspondence, websites or on the telephone.

My Government also conducts regular Community Cabinet meetings throughout Queensland. These meetings provide local communities with an opportunity to meet and talk to Ministers in their local area and raise matters of importance to them.

The Parliament will also be meeting in Cairns in May 2023, and this will give the people of Far North Queensland the chance to see parliamentary processes in person, engage with members and put forward their views.

As the ultimate expression of their voice, Queenslanders vote at regular elections for their preferred candidate to represent them in their electorate in the Legislative Assembly.

While my Government does not support the request made in this petition, I sincerely appreciate the interest the petitioners have in Queensland's law making processes and respect their right to provide their thoughts on these matters to the Legislative Assembly.

Again, thank you for raising this important matter with me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne', written in a cursive style.

**ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR THE OLYMPICS**