



Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of
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Our ref: 572305/8, 6612680

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to e-Petition 3786-22 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 21 February 2023 titled *Alternate Method of Preferential Voting #2*.

I note the petition is an amendment to e-Petition 3779-22 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 21 February 2023 titled *Alternative Method of Preferential Voting*. This response is intended to address both petitions.

Queensland has employed different voting systems over its history. Even today, different systems are used at different levels of government.

Since the enactment of the *Electoral (Improving Representation) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2016*, the method of voting used for state elections is 'full preferential voting'. Electors in a state election must number all boxes in order of preference, and votes are counted using the legislated counting process, with the ballots for losing candidates being redistributed until one candidate is the choice of the majority of voters.

The preferential voting systems and the current counting procedure are used throughout Australia. The Government is not currently considering changes to the voting systems used for Queensland elections. However, I thank the petitioners for considering possible alternatives to our voting procedures and appreciate the petitioners' interest in promoting and strengthening our representative democracy in Queensland.

I thank the petitioners for bringing their concerns to the attention of the House.

Yours sincerely

Shannon Fentiman MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence
Member for Waterford