



Queensland  
Government

The Honourable Linda Lavarch MP

Member for Kurwongbah

In reply please quote reference no:

2006/01361 J/06/01027 and  
2006/01734 J/06/01469

Attorney-General and  
Minister for Justice

27 MAR 2006

Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
Cnr Alice and George Streets  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

**Petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly No.617-06 and No.527-05**

Thank you for your letters dated 17 February 2006 and 8 March 2006 about the above petition received by the House, regarding a specialised community-based legal service aimed at meeting the needs of older Australians.

As Australia's population ages, it is recognised that there will be an increased need for specialised legal services to meet the legal needs of older Australians. The responsibility for providing any additional funds is a responsibility of both the Commonwealth Government and the Queensland Government.

The Queensland Government has already provided some funding through the Department of Communities for a Seniors' Advocacy, Information and Legal Service (Caxton Legal Service Centre). Caxton Legal Service Centre targets people over the age of sixty experiencing or at risk from domestic and family violence (non-spousal), including financial abuse, intimidation and harassment.

Further consideration will be given to how similar services can be provided to rural and regional Queensland.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Hon Linda Lavarch MP  
**Attorney-General and Minister for Justice**

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