



Legal Affairs, Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services Committee

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Your Ref:

Our Ref: 11.1.4.c

2 September 2011

Respect Inc.
PO Box 2470
New Farm Qld 4005

Dear Sir/Madam

Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 **Call for submissions**

The Legal Affairs, Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services Committee (the committee) was established by the Legislative Assembly on 16 June 2011. It has responsibilities in the portfolio areas of Attorney-General and Justice (excluding Industrial Relations), Fair Trading, Police and Community Safety. Part of the committee's role is to examine Bills introduced into the Parliament and referred to the committee.

On 25 August 2011, the Legislative Assembly referred the **Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2011** (the Bill) to the committee for consideration.

The Bill proposes to widen the powers of Queensland Police officers. The Bill would allow:

- pat-down searches of persons detained under certain provisions for maintaining public order;
- pat-down searches of minors suspected of unlawfully possessing alcohol;
- changes extinguishing the right to enforce a charge or security interest registered against an impounded motor vehicle that is to be sold;
- police to, where practicable, leave a notice when entering a place to provide relief to an animal suffering from lack of food or water;
- changes to community service orders imposed as an alternative to vehicle impoundments;
- changes to the taking of DNA samples, including samples from child victims;
- non-government forensic laboratory analysis of DNA samples;
- expansion of the circumstances in which a disease test order can be obtained;
- police to act on anonymous noise complaints;
- the extension of the noise abatement period to up to four days;
- police to exclude an occupier from accompanying a police officer during certain searches, for safety reasons;
- police reconnaissance of property prior to installation of a surveillance device under the terms of a warrant;
- involvement of civilian participants in controlled activities like, for example, introducing undercover police officers to drug dealers; and
- the inclusion of additional offences in relation to a prostitute providing sexual intercourse or oral sex without a prophylactic being used, to provide immunity for a police officer.

The committee is seeking submissions from the public and stakeholders and invites you to make a submission.

The enclosed information sheet also incorporates guidelines on making a submission.

We would also appreciate your passing the committee's call for submissions on to anyone you believe might be interested in this issue.

Please note that submissions close on Friday 23 September 2011.

As part of its examination of the Bill, the committee intends to hold a public hearing in late September 2011 at Parliament House, Brisbane, and will advise stakeholders and the general public of the details at a later date. Details of public committee hearings are posted on a weekly basis on www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-committees.

If you have any queries, please contact the committee secretariat on (07) 3406 7307. Further information about the committee and its work is available at www.parliament.qld.gov.au/lapcsesc.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dean Wells". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hon Dean Wells MP
Acting Chair

Enc

Making a written submission to the Committee

The Legal Affairs, Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services Committee has called for submissions to provide individuals, organisations and communities with the opportunity to have their say on the proposed legislation. Submissions will assist the Committee in its examination of the Bill and help inform the recommendations it makes to the Parliament.

What to include

Your submission lets the Committee know how you (or your organisation or community) feel about the changes contained in the legislation. Submissions can include your opinion, personal experience, fact, relevant arguments and also recommendations that might address the issues you have identified. Attachments and supporting documents can also be provided to support your submission.

Format

There is no set format for preparing a written submission. Typed text on A4 paper is preferable, though legible hand-written submissions are acceptable. A return address and contact number should also be provided. Once you have written your submission, it can be submitted to the Committee through email, fax or post to the address below.

Public officers may make submissions as private individuals. However, if reference is made in a submission to their official position, it should also be made clear that the submission is made in a private capacity.

How does the Committee deal with submissions?

The Committee will consider all submissions presented and provide a written response when submissions have been received. The relevance and content of a submission will be considered by the Committee when deciding whether to accept and whether to publish it. Reasons why a submission might *not* be accepted or published include if it contains offensive language, is irrelevant, does not address the legislation under consideration, or is defamatory, illegible or *sub judice*. The vast majority of submissions are accepted and published on the Committee's website.

Publication, confidentiality and parliamentary privilege

Your submission remains confidential until the Committee authorises its publication. Once your submission has been considered, it may be published on the Committee's website. If you would like your submission to remain fully or partially confidential, please discuss this with the committee secretariat.

Your submission is protected by parliamentary privilege, which means that you can present your views honestly without fear of legal action such as defamation. However, submissions are not an opportunity to make adverse comments about individuals.

Where can I get more information?

If you have any questions about the work of the Committee or making a submission, visit the Committee's website at www.parliament.qld.gov.au or contact the secretariat:

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