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From: Simon Gamble

Sent: Thursday, 23 August 2007 3:58 PM

To: Committee, FPA (SEN)

Subject: Enquiry into Council Amalgamation (QLD) Legislation

Dear Sir,

I believe the Senate should make enquiries into the actions of the Queensland Government's Legislation enforcing the amalgamation of Local Councils.

The concerns I have refer to the very rapid process that was adopted by the Government in adopting the recommendations of the Independant Committee appointed by the Government, The amount of time that Committee had to prepare its report considering the size and the amount of reforms the Committee were able to recommend..

There appears to be very little evidence of the committees deliberations or of their enquiries at individual council level.

The Government's determination to accept the Committees recommendation without heeding the very pronounced opposition to the proposal at many levels and in a wide area of the state.

The government's willingness to react to this opposition in a an extremely heavy handed fashion to the extent of threatening democratic principles is also very disturbing.

I trust that these reasons amongst others are sufficient reason to proceed with an enquiry.

Yours sincerely

S i m o n G a m b l e