

In reply please quote: 2006/00703, J/06/00496

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. 421- 05

Thank you for your email dated 31 January 2006 about the above petition received by the House calling for the lowering of the age of consent for anal intercourse.

Queensland's Criminal Code sets a minimum age of 16 years for consent to all sexual activity except anal intercourse which is 18 years.

I am cognizant of the strong views held by many for the need for reform and agree that we need to ensure young people have access to safe sex information and that our laws operate fairly and justly.

The issue of the age of consent is a vexed one and one in which there are deeply held and opposing views. The Government has no plans to alter the applicable law.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Hon Linda Lavarch MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice