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Closed e-petitions

Subject: Reform of the Queensland Criminal Code to allow equal protection and support of all youth, regardless of their sexuality or of their gender

Eligibility: Queensland citizens

Sponsoring Member: Simon Finn MP

Principal Petitioner: J Frame
82 Main Avenue
WAVELL HEIGHTS QLD 4012

Number of Signatures: 740

Posting Date: 31/01/2005

Closing Date: 31/07/2005

Tabled Date: 09/08/2005

Referred to Minister/s: No

Referred Date: 10/08/2005

Response Due Date: N/A

Response Tabled: 22/03/2006

Information about the Principal Petitioner is available through the sponsoring [Member of Parliaments office](#) .

[Email this link to a colleague](#)

TO: The Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland

Queensland citizens draws to the attention of the House the current Queensland Criminal Code discriminates against 16 and 17 year old youth by criminalising one possible sexual activity, anal intercourse, with penalties of up to 14 years gaol. As a result Queensland youth are denied vital safe sex education regarding this sexual activity. Further, gay and bisexual youth, in particular are denied peer acceptance and community support because of this law. The age of consent of 16 needs to be applied equally to all Queensland youth to ensure that sexually active people between 16-18 years of age are able to:

- receive advice and support in relation to a range of sexual activities
- undertake consenting sexual activity without fear of legal penalties.

Your petitioners, therefore, request the House to take action immediately to establish a truly equal age of consent by removing sections 208 and 209 of the Queensland Criminal Code Act 1899.

Queensland Parliament Closed e-petitions

<http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/en/work-of-assembly/petitions/closed-e-petitions>

Here is the "copied and pasted" text from the original e-petition webpage, as per the "printscreen" reconstructed image above:

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- undertake consenting sexual activity without fear of legal penalties.

Your petitioners, therefore, request the House to take action immediately to establish a truly equal age of consent by removing sections 208 and 209 of the Queensland Criminal Code Act 1899.

Here is the official Ministerial response which was posted on 22nd March 2006:

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