

CITIZEN INITIATED REFERENDA

One Nation accepts that under the Australian Constitution, power to make laws belongs to the people. Any changes to the Constitution can therefore only be authorised by the people through a referendum. At present, such a referendum can only proceed via government action.

A state-based Citizens Initiated Referendum (CIR) would allow Queenslanders to push for an issue to be put to a binding vote of the whole State. The CIR could be started by circulating a petition amongst electors stating the background and reasons that the issue should be considered. The petition could relate to a new law or a law already enacted, or to change the Constitution. This is democracy at its best. If Queenslanders collected 5% of elector's signatures in the form of a petition asking for a referendum, the State Parliament would be obliged to put the issue to the people at the next general election.

CIR has been accepted in parts of Europe since 1874, in parts of the USA since 1898 and in New Zealand since 1993. It is a process to allow people to put an issue to the electors of the State.



One Nation supports the CIR as a way of allowing all Queensland electors to have a direct say in government decision-making. Our present system of government only allows political parties the right to decide for the rest of us.

One Nation will:

- Introduce legislation to allow the use of Citizen Initiated Referenda in the Queensland system of government.
- Enable the services of the Queensland Parliament to assist in drafting such petitions.

