

## Daylight Saving Referendum 19 years and counting...

22 February 2011 marks 19 years to the day since Queensland's one and only Referendum on Daylight Saving.

"Queensland's only Daylight Saving referendum was held nearly two decades ago, and is outdated and does not reflect current demographics," Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party Leader, Jason Furze said.

Mr Furze said that while the referendum was defeated, the result displayed the distinct trend - that public opinion on Daylight Saving in Queensland is geographically divided. "The 'no' vote was highest in the north and west regional districts, while the 'yes' vote had strong support in Queensland's metropolitan south-east," Mr Furze said.

Mr Furze said that most Queenslanders would like to experience Daylight Saving, particularly those in the south-east of the state. "Premier Anna Bligh's June 2010 public consultation found that two thirds of Queenslanders support a trial and a referendum on introducing Daylight Saving in the south-east, and therefore dual time zones to Queensland. It is very clear that the people want to give dual time zones a go, and have Daylight Saving adopted in the south-east," he said.

Mr Furze said that given the geographic divide on Daylight Saving within Queensland, the concept of dual time zones is devised with the views of regional Queenslanders firmly in mind - since they would be exempt from Daylight Saving. "Introducing dual time zones would maintain a respectful view towards regional and rural Queenslanders, whilst also giving fair consideration to the views of those residing in South East Queensland - a compromise that aims to satisfy the majority of all Queenslanders," Mr Furze said.

"With the Parliamentary debate for Peter Wellington's *Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Referendum Bill* due early this year, we are calling on supporters to rally behind a Parliamentary e-Petition<sup>1</sup> requesting the Government to support this Bill," Mr Furze, said.

"We believe that if a substantial number of supporters back this petition for Daylight Saving in South East Queensland, it will demonstrate to the Premier that there actually is momentum for change on this significant issue," he said.

"If the Premier and Opposition Leader were serious about listening to all Queenslanders, then they would allow a Referendum to be held on having Daylight Saving in South East Queensland. A Referendum is the only way to find out what all Queenslanders really think about having Daylight Saving in South East Queensland," Mr Furze said.

DS4SEQ encourages people to sign the petition, lobby their local members, and lobby the Premier and Opposition Leader. "If people really want to have Daylight Saving in South East Queensland, then residents must sign this e-Petition, the link of which is located on our website [www.ds4seq.org.au](http://www.ds4seq.org.au). I would also encourage residents to lobby in favour of Daylight Saving - directly to Premier Bligh, Mr Langbroek and their local member," Mr Furze said.

1. Queensland Parliament Petition (Internet). Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Referendum Bill 2010. [http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/view/EPetitions\\_QLD/CurrentEPetition.aspx?PetNum=1543&Index=-1](http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/view/EPetitions_QLD/CurrentEPetition.aspx?PetNum=1543&Index=-1)

**ENDS**

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