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18th July 2002

The Secretary
House of Representatives Economics, Finance
and Public Administration Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2601

House of representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration	
Submission No:.....	38
Date Received:	24/7/02
Secretary:	Bardell

Dear Sir

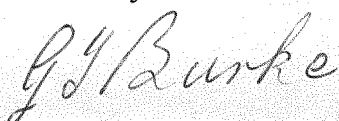
Will you please place this submission before the Committee for their consideration.

Inquiry into Local Government and Cost Shifting

Federal Government may give money or other resources to whoever it chooses, including Local Government. However, when the Federal Government attaches conditions to these resources it gives de facto recognition to Local Government. Two referenda seeking to give this recognition to Federal Government were defeated. It is always open to the Federal Government to put the question again in yet another referendum, however, to give de facto recognition before such a referendum, would appear to be unconstitutional.

I respectfully request that the Committee considers this aspect of the matter and includes their conclusions in their report

Yours faithfully



GEOFFREY BURKE

Copies to:

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Minister for Regional Services, Territories
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