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The Committee Secretary
Senate Finance & Public Administration Committee
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

Federal Labor is and always has been committed to a sustainable and responsive system of local government and as a candidate for Dickson in the upcoming Federal election and a part of the Kevin Rudd Labor team, I support this position.

I understand and care about the concerns of my community in relation to the Council amalgamations and their future local governments.

Federal Labor is committed to the preservation of local voice and local choice. We do not support the forced amalgamation of local councils without due consideration of alternative means to achieve efficiency improvements and best practice.

Federal Labor has consulted with the Queensland Government and listened to the Local Government Association of Queensland on the state government's proposal for the amalgamation of Queensland local authorities.

Federal Labor's opposition to forced amalgamations in Queensland is clearly on the record. Kevin Rudd has proposed that such amalgamations be tested by the local people through a referendum. Federal Labor welcomes John Howard's support for our plan.

As a Federal Labor Queensland candidate I am out in my community supporting this position and listening to my community.

Yours sincerely

Fiona McNamara

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