



Western Australia

ADVISING FAMILIES ACROSS GENERATIONS

3 May 2021

The Attorney-General,  
The Hon. John Quigley, MLA  
Level 5, Dumas House,  
2 Havelock Street,  
West Perth, 6005,  
Western Australia.

By email: [john.quigley@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:john.quigley@mp.wa.gov.au)

Dear Sir,

**Re: Imperial Acts (Law Reform) Bill and progressing this Bill to an Act  
of the Western Australian Parliament**

I congratulate you on your deserved success in the recent election and in keeping Mr Palmer relatively quiet for an extraordinarily long period of time.

I have written to you before on the topic of bringing back to Western Australia the remaining Imperial Acts. I am now writing to you as a member of STEP (Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners) Western Australia's Policy Sub-Committee and humbly request, once again, that this topic be brought onto the Government's agenda.

Some time has passed since the LRCWA's report. Consultation across Government will be needed to bring about this desired reform.

This reform will not happen unless some planning as to how to bring this reform to fruition is undertaken.

I suggest that the first step in the process is for you to confer with the Solicitor-General, Mr Joshua Thomson SC, for the establishment of a Working Party. My suggestion for the name of that Working Party is: "*The Attorney-General's Working Party for the Return of Imperial Acts*", under the leadership of the Solicitor-General.

The Working Party Committee should consist of appropriate persons drawn from the State Solicitor's office, one of whom is to act as Secretary to the Committee, and some outside members. One of the outside members to be considered is Emeritus Professor Hanford of the UWA Law School.

Professor Hanford was the Secretary of the LRCWA when the Report was prepared and has an unrivalled knowledge of the history of the Report and a keen interest to see its proposals enacted.

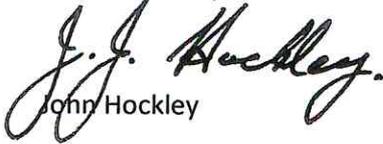
If such a Working Party, as suggested above, were established, it could meet bi-monthly with the Secretary taking notes. If so, I think it is conceivable that your desire to bring back the Imperial Acts to Western Australia could well be achieved by the end of the current term of State Parliament.

The approach I have suggested above is not new. It is based on the highly successful "*Working Party on Succession Law Reform*" established by Mr McGinty in 2004, which produced amendments to: The *Wills Act* in 2007; the *Family Provision Act 1972*; the *Administration Amendment (Intestacy) Act* that is being re-introduced into the current session of State Parliament, and proposals to reform the *Administration Act 1903*, which have been referred to Parliamentary Counsel.

If a Working Party were established, there would be a focus to which the discussions across government could be gathered and filtered, and practical recommendations could be made to you as Attorney-General in regard to the implementation of the Reforms to the Imperial Statutes.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,



John Hockley

STEP Western Australia

Policy Sub-Committee

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