



Rule of Law Association of Australia

10 March 2010

Media Release

Queensland Government deserves credit for observing the rule of law – Land Valuation regime changes

The Rule of Law Association of Australia today welcomed the decision of the Queensland Government to reverse its retrospective land valuation legislation.

The Rule of Law Association of Australia is an independent non-profit association formed to uphold the rule of law in Australia. The Association's objectives are:

- To foster the rule of law in Australia.
- To promote good governance in Australia by the rule of law.
- To encourage truth and transparency in Australian Federal and State governments, and government departments and agencies.
- To reduce the complexity, arbitrariness and uncertainty of Australian laws.
- To reduce the complexity, arbitrariness and uncertainty of the administrative application of Australian laws.

RoLAA CEO, Richard Gilbert, said: 'This is a positive outcome for the rule of law in Queensland. The decision to not impose retrospective changes (dating back to 2002) on Queensland landholders is a prudent decision by the Bligh Government. It is consistent with the recently amended Queensland Constitution which has in its opening paragraphs a statement that the Parliament will respect the rule of law. In addition, it accords with the *Parliamentary Standards Act 1992* (Qld) which explicitly states that retrospective legislation is contrary to the rule of law.

'The decision sends strong and positive signals to investors (domestic and foreign) on legal certainty which should assist their decision to invest in Queensland', Mr Gilbert concluded.

For further information please contact Richard Gilbert on 02 92518000