Since ascending the throne, Queen Elizabeth II has been a great friend and supporter of Australia as she has the cause of the Commonwealth of nations and has made the long journey to Australia many times. Recognizing the significant of such efforts and respect, Australian in turn have regarded her as partly our own. In that sense, the "Queen of Australia" argument struck a deeper chord with average Australian than any previous pro-Republican argument.



Unfortunately the "Australian Head of State" and Queen of Australia" debate long overshadowed the vitally important and deep under lying issues associated with constitutional reform and the issue of a head of State, namely:

- (1) The lack of definition of a Head of State in the present constitution;
- (2) The refinement and definition of powers in the role of Head of State;
- (3) The right for Australians to choose their Head of State.



Most Australians would be amazed to learn that the Australian Constitution actually makes no explicit provision for the role of a Head of State. Such a role is implied to the Crown through the function of the Governor-General, but it is never explicitly defined.

As a result, there exists a tremendous vacuum in the function of Australian government and the power, role and authority of the Executive Branch (The Prime Minister and Cabinet of Ministers) and Parliament.

History and Reality

Spotlight on Australia

The political structure of Australia.

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WHY QUEEN OF THE UK IS THE HEAD?



The Commonwealth of Australia is a self– governing federal state and a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. Formally the head of state is the King or Queen of England represented by the Governor–General.

The Commonwealth of Australia consists of six states and two territories: New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, the Federal Capital Territory and the Northern Territory. The Capital Territory is the land around the Federal capital Canberra.

The states run such things as education, police health, railway and roads. The Commonwealth looks after the army posts and telegraph relations with other countries.

Australia

has a parliament in each state and the Federal Parliament of the Commonwealth at Canberra. The Federal Parliament consist of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The federal government of the country is headed by the Prime Minister, usually the leader of the party which has the majority in the House of Representatives .The political parties represented in the parliament are the Australian Labour Party, the Liberal Party of Australia and National Agrarian the Party.