10 years may be too short and that for those with life sentences there should be no expungment. A number of submissions called for shorter waiting periods for juveniles.

- A large number of employer and licencing authorities requested an exemption from many of the Commission's proposals. For example, boards of teachers and employer bodies involved in determining whether a person was a 'fit and proper person' for appointment to positions of care and responsibility felt that they needed to know whether that person has ever been convicted of an offence of violent or sexual nature.
- It was argued that there should be automatic expungement of offences that had subsequently been decriminalised.
- The Commission's proposals received some criticism for being too complex. Some thought it unnecessary to apply to the Commissioner-of-Police to provide a certificate stating that a record had been expunged. This provision was thought by many to be unworkable. It was suggested that expungement should be automatic or alternatively that an order for expungement should be made by the judge during the sentencing process or on application thereafter.

The Commission was given examples of difficulties faced by persons with criminal records in obtaining licences from customs authorities; taxi drivers licences and other licences; visas to the United States; in participating in neighbourhood watch programs; and in applying for jobs and scholarships.

The Commission is now reformulating the proposals contained in its draft Criminal Information and Records Bill as set out in Discussion Paper No25. These reformulations will take into account many of the comments and criticisms presented to the Commission during the public hearings. They will also contain an assessment of proposals established in the Criminal Law (Rehabilitation of Offenders) Act 1986 (Qld) and the recent report of the Western Australian Law Reform Commission on the Expungement of Criminal Records.

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