

**Constitution Act 1900.**

**Covering Clause 9.**

**The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia.**

**SECTION 58.**

Section 58; Royal assent to Bills.

**When a proposed law passed by both Houses of the Parliament is presented to the Governor-General for the Queen's assent, he shall declare, according to his discretion, but subject to this Constitution, that he assents in the Queen's name, or that he withholds assent, or that he reserves the law for the Queen's pleasure.**

**Recommendations by Governor-General.**

**The Governor-General may return to the House in which it originated any proposed law so presented to him, and may transmit therewith any amendments which he may recommend, and the Houses may deal with the recommendation.**

**The Annotated Constitution make the following comments;**  
**Presented to the Governor-General for the Queen's Assent.** Page 689

When a bill passed by both Houses of the Federal Parliament is presented to the Governor-General for the Queen's assent he may do one of three things:

- (1.) He may assent to the Bill in the Queen's name; and thereupon it becomes law, and remains law unless within one year from the date of the assent it is expressly disallowed by the Queen.
- (2.) He may withhold assent, that is absolutely veto the Bill, and thereupon it is lost for the time being.
- (3.) He may reserve the Bill for the signification of the Queen's pleasure, and thereupon it becomes subject to the procedure defined by section. 60.

The assent of the Queen to proposed laws is Her Majesty's assent as a separate, independent, and co-equal branch of the Federal Parliament.

The Governor-General is authorized to assent in the Queen's name to Bills, to withhold the Royal assent to Bills, or to reserve Bills for the signification of the Queen's pleasure, "according to his discretion," **and subject only to the Constitution.**

In determining the exercise of his discretion, the Governor-General **will be entitled to receive from the law officers of the Commonwealth** a report in reference to each Bill to be submitted for his sanction, specifying whether there is any legal objection to his assenting to it, or whether his duty and obligations, as Representative of the Crown, necessitate that he should withhold his assent or reserve the Bill for the consideration of the Imperial Government.

**Some words from CLRA.**

It is this section of the Commonwealth Constitution that has been abused by successive Parliaments, a condition that has almost single handedly led to the people of this Nation being controlled and enslaved.