

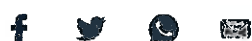


POLITICS QUEENSLAND COURTS

## After decades in prison, two serious sex offenders will stay there at 'Her Majesty's Pleasure'


By Felicity Caldwell  
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Two serious child sex offenders will remain in prison, following a recommendation by Attorney-General Yvette D'Ath.



Edward Pollentine and Joseph Butler were being held indefinitely in Queensland's prison system at "Her Majesty's Pleasure".





Two child offenders will remain in jail, after successfully applying for release from indefinite sentences.

The Prisoners Legal Service unsuccessfully applied for their release, but the two men will remain in jail, under section 18 (5) (b) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1945.

On psychiatric advice, Pollentine has been detained since 1984 after a series of violent offences against children.

In 1984, Pollentine, then 25, pleaded guilty in the District Court to 14 sexual offences against four children, including abduction, sodomy and attempted rape, with the judge imposing no specific sentence, directing he be detained indefinitely.

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Pollentine, now aged 59, has previously sought reviews of his sentence and in 2014, the [High Court upheld](#) the 1945 Queensland law, which allowed a judge to make directions for indefinite detention.

On psychiatric advice, Butler has been detained since June 1970.

Queensland law allows a judge to sentence offenders to indefinite jail terms, based on reports from at least two doctors that the person is incapable of exercising proper control over their sexual instincts.

Someone sentenced to indefinite detention can only be released when the state governor is satisfied he can return to the community.

Prisoners Legal Service Queensland was contacted for comment.



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