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Page 1 of 1

Legal boss must quit: Senator

A SENIOR LNP Senator has called for the solicitor-general to resign as the spat between the nation's two most senior legal officers worsens.

Solicitor-General Justin Gleeson last week disputed Attorney-General George Brandis's statement that he was consulted over a legal direction requiring anyone seeking his advice to get permission from Senator Brandis first.

Queensland Senator Ian MacDonald accused Gleeson of politicising his independent position by participating in last week's inquiry into the matter, which he called a "witch hunt" set up by Labor. Labor Senator Murray Watt said the dispute was "eerily familiar" for Queenslanders remembering former premier Campbell Newman and former attorney-general Jarrod Bleijie's "flagrant disregard for the independence of judiciary and solicitor-general".