



## **Australian Government**

Australian Government response to the  
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters report:

*Second interim report on the inquiry into the conduct of the 2013  
federal election: An assessment of electronic voting options*

MAY 2024

## **Introduction**

On 20 November 2014, the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters (JSCEM) tabled a report titled *Second interim report on the inquiry into the conduct of the 2013 federal election: An assessment of electronic voting options*.

The Government's response to the recommendations of the Report follows below.

**Government Response to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters report:  
Second interim report on the inquiry into the conduct of the 2013 federal election:  
An assessment of electronic voting options**

#	Recommendation	Government Response
1	The Committee recommends that the Australian Government adequately resource the Australian Electoral Commission to deploy electronic certified lists where possible to all pre-poll voting centres and to all mobile voting teams at the next federal election.	<p><b><u>Noted</u></b></p> <p>The Government notes the recommendation. Given the passage of time, a substantive government response is no longer appropriate.</p>
2	The Committee recommends that, after the next federal election, the Australian Electoral Commission undertake a full cost benefit analysis of utilising electronic certified lists at all polling locations based on a permanent investment in the relevant technology and/or the development of a platform that can be accessed from any networked computer, with a view to full implementation at future elections.	Refer to recommendation 1.
3	The Committee recommends that the Special Minister of State propose to the states and territories that the further development of electronic electoral roll mark-off systems be undertaken in a collaborative approach to facilitate the sharing of resources.	Refer to recommendation 1.

#	Recommendation	Government Response
4	The Committee recommends that relevant sections of the <i>Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918</i> and the <i>Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1984</i> , be amended to allow for the expansion of the use of electronic certified lists as a form of approved list for marking electors who have been issued a ballot paper.	Refer to recommendation 1.
5	The Committee recommends the Australian Electoral Commission develop and trial the electronically-assisted counting of ballot papers at all pre-poll centres for the next federal election.	Refer to recommendation 1.
6	The Committee recommends that the Australian Government investigate the feasibility of digital storage of scanned ballot papers to replace storage of paper ballots.	Refer to recommendation 1.
7	The Committee recommends that the <i>Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918</i> and the <i>Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1984</i> be amended to allow for expansion of the current assisted telephone voting system to include people with assessed mobility or access issues for the next federal election.	Refer to recommendation 1.

**The Government notes that there are no dissenting reports or recommendation.**