



**Peter Dutton MP**  
**Federal Member for Dickson**



*Working hard for an even better Dickson*

Tuesday, 22 March 2005

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters	
Submission No.	133
Date Received	8-4-05
Secretary	<i>[Signature]</i>

The Secretary  
 Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters  
 Parliament House  
 CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir

I write in regard to your recently commissioned Inquiry into the conduct of the 2004 Federal Election. I wish to convey the experiences of a Dickson constituent in dealing with the Australian Electoral Commission's inefficient staff at the Greenslopes Hospital on election day.

Mr Hubert Thomas Bourne of 65/54 Ogg Road, Murrumba Downs, was a patient in FSU at the Greenslopes Hospital on election day and he advises that the nurse in the unit asked the AEC staff 4 times during the day to attend to Mr Bourne who wished to register his vote. As Mr Bourne felt the day was getting late he asked the nurse to approach the AEC staff once again, upon doing so she was told that they were in the process of packing up and that they would not be visiting Mr Bourne.

The nurse advised Mr Bourne that he was only one of many patients denied a vote at Greenslopes Hospital that day.

Mr Bourne has now returned to the retirement village and has received a letter from the AEC asking why he failed to vote. Although Mr Bourne is 86 years old, he is very astute and very annoyed that he was denied his right to register a vote, especially after trying so many times to do so.

Mr Bourne was assured that my office would, on his behalf, report such poor conduct on the part of the electoral officers at Greenslopes Hospital on election day. Thank you for providing the opportunity to register Mr Bourne's concerns.

Yours sincerely

*[Signature of Peter Dutton]*

**Peter Dutton**  
 Federal Member for Dickson  
 Minister for Workforce Participation  
 pd:cc

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