

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STANDING COMMITTEE ON
PETITIONS

Received 13.8.08 12

10th August 2008

Submission for inquiry into 'e-petitions'
Julia Irwin MP
Chair of the Standing Committee on Petitions
petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms Irwin,

I strongly support the concept of allowing Australians to lodge online and electronic petitions to the House Representatives.

'E-petitions' give people the ability to stand up for their cause in a easy to do way. Online petitions require minimal effort and fit in with Australia's extremely busy day-to-day lifestyle.

I believe a type of system that would allow people to submit an online petition in the following ways should be used:

- submit the petition in person to a MP,
 - submit the petition by mail,
 - submit the petition by e mail
- and
- submit the petition electronically via a government website/server.

This would give people flexible options, so that choose the method that suits their lifestyle. The system should allow people to run their petition off as many websites they choose (e.g. "Go Petition", their own website, "the petition site", their 'MySpace' page ECT). People should definitely not have to run their petition off a Government webpage. However people signing an online petition should be required to entre 'CAPTCHA' to ensure that this person really exists. 'CAPTCHA' reduces spam immensely from computers, automated programs and helps stop the spread of computer viruses. It requires users to entre text from an image that only humans, not computers can read.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.

Yours Sincerely,

Jaden Harris