



Hon BOB KATTER MP

Member for Kennedy

Innisfail Office

1 November 2001

Chairman
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Enduring Power of Attorney with Regard to Postal Vote Applications

It has come to my attention that there are certain anomalies with regards to applications for Postal Votes in a general election.

It seems that people who have enduring Power of Attorney are not able to sign applications for Postal Votes for those for whom they have enduring Power of Attorney.

There would be many people in this situation, and I know of at least one such case in the electorate of Kennedy.

Mrs Myrtle Jenkin, of Andrews Street, Aloomba, is blind, and her husband Mr Jack Jenkin has enduring Power of Attorney to sign all documents for her. Yet the law does not allow Mr Jenkin to sign an application for a Postal Vote. Mr Jenkin was not aware of this and subsequently signed an application for a Postal Vote on Mrs Jenkin's behalf for the upcoming federal election. The application was rejected by the Australian Electoral Commission. The Jenkins are most distressed that this has occurred, as Mrs Jenkin very much wants to vote, but obviously has difficulty signing the form herself.

I would appreciate it if the Committee would consider changes to this legislation to allow people with Enduring Power of Attorney to sign forms of this nature.

Yours sincerely

Hon Bob Katter MP
Member for Kennedy
per: *Kerryn*

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters	
Submission No.	29
Date Received	5/7/02
Secretary	<i>deli</i>

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