

Miskin, Sarah (REPS)

From: Peter Kelly [epicurus1@optusnet.com.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 8 March 2005 10:58 AM
To: Committee, EM (REPS)
Subject: The senate voting system

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters	
Submission No.	76
Date Received	8-3-05
Secretary	<i>[Signature]</i>

To the
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters, Parliament House

I am writing to let you know of my opinion of the voting system for the senate. I believe that voting works best that is transparent as well as easy to use. For this reason I support Bob Brown's legislation into the Senate that would allow each voter, rather than parties, to allocate preferences above the line.

You are aware that the present system allowed Family First to return a senator from Victoria with just 2% of the primary vote while the Greens with 8% were denied a senator because of a preference deal done by Labor. This was probably against the instinct and natural preference of members and voters of the Labor Party. A similar situation in South Australia with Democrat preferences worked against the Greens in that state as well as the natural inclination of many Democrat members and voters.

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