



2010 federal election inquiry: Canberra public hearings

The parliamentary Electoral Matter's Committee will hold its first public hearings in Canberra this week for its inquiry into the conduct of the 2010 federal election.

"This inquiry is about looking at practical options to enhance our electoral system and to maintain its integrity", said Committee Chair, Daryl Melham MP, "so all Australians can remain confident in the conduct and outcome of our elections".

On Wednesday, 2 March 2011, the committee will hear from political analyst Antony Green on informal voting, automatic enrolment and the Senate voting system.

On Friday, 4 March 2011, the Australian Electoral Commissioner and other Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) representatives, including state managers from New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia, will meet with the committee. The committee will also hear from the Democratic Audit of Australia.

"The AEC generally does a good job of conducting elections", said Mr Melham MP, but added that "there is always room for improvement". The hearing will cover key challenges of the 2010 federal election such as increased informal voting, early polling, queues on polling day, provisional and declaration voting requirements, and enrolment, including electronic initiatives.

Public Hearing Details

Wednesday, 2 March 2011

Venue: Committee Room 2S3, Parliament House, Canberra

9.45 am to 11.00 am Antony Green

Friday, 4 March 2011

Venue: Committee Room 2S1, Parliament House, Canberra

9.00 am Australian Electoral Commission

11.30 am Break

11.45 am AEC State Managers for New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia

12.45 pm Democratic Audit of Australia

1.30 pm Finish

Both hearings will be webcast live at: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

For more information and to follow the progress of the inquiry visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/em>.

For media comment: Please contact the Committee Chair, Daryl Melham MP on (02) 6277 2054 (Parliament House office).

Further information: contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 2374 or jscem@aph.gov.au.