

From: Peter and Renata Singer
Sent: Thursday, 30 May 2002 12:15 AM
To: JSCEM@aph.gov.au
Cc:
Subject: Non-Resident Voting Rights

Message:

To: The Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee
on Electoral Matters
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Dear Sir,

This submission is in response to the JSCEM's invitation for public comment as part of its Inquiry into the Conduct of the 2001 Federal Election.

We are Australian citizens living in the United States. We were not able to vote in the last election, because we do not have firm plans as to the date of our return, and we left Australia just a little over two years before the election. But our Australian citizenship is important to us. We keep in close touch with Australian politics, and participate in it in various ways, eg most recently by supporting petitions and advertisements on refugee issues. We do intend to return to live in Australia one day, and we do not believe that we should have been disenfranchised simply because we have temporarily left our country.

We hope you will consider amending legislation to restore our right to vote.

Peter Singer
Renata Singer