

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL MATTERS**

Public hearing: Inquiry into the 2007 election

*Chair: Daryl Melham**Deputy Chair: Scott Morrison*

## Public hearings in Melbourne to inquire into the 2007 federal election

The Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters will hold public hearings in Melbourne on Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 August 2008 as part of its inquiry into the conduct of the 2007 election.

“The Committee will hear from a range of witnesses including the Australian Electoral Commission State Managers for Victoria and Tasmania, academics with an interest in political party financing and electronic voting as well as groups representing homeless people,” Committee Chair Daryl Melham said.

More than 3.4 million Victorians were on the electoral roll for the 2007 Federal election, an increase of almost 149,700 (4.5 per cent) compared to the election in 2004. The rate of “early voting” in Victoria increased 49 per cent at the 2007 election compared to 2004.

Submissions to the inquiry have highlighted a number of issues relating to the election and the electoral system including:

- the increase in “early voting”
- concerns over informal voting
- the success of electronic voting trials for the vision impaired and overseas defence force personnel
- the impact of recent changes to electoral laws on enrolment and provisional voting
- concerns over recent changes to political finance and disclosure arrangements.

The venue for the hearings is the Legislative Council Committee Room, Parliament of Victoria, Spring St, Melbourne. The hearings commence at 9.15am and are open to the public. They will also be webcast (audio only) live on <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>.

A copy of the program for each day is attached overleaf.

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, Daryl Melham, on (02) 6277 2054 (Parliament House Office).

**Further information:** contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 2374, email [jscem@aph.gov.au](mailto:jscem@aph.gov.au) or visit the Committee’s webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/em>

**Legislative Council Committee Room  
Parliament of Victoria  
Spring St, Melbourne**

**Monday, 11 August 2008**

9.15 am Australian Electoral Officer (State Manager) Victoria  
Australian Electoral Commission

11.00 am Dr Sally Young

11.45 am Mr Anthony van der Craats

1.30 pm Blind Citizens Australia

2.00 pm PILCH Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic

2.30 pm Hanover Welfare Services

3.15 pm Mr Mark Dreyfus QC MP  
Federal Member for Isaacs

**Tuesday, 12 August 2008**

9.15 am Dr Joo-Cheong Tham

10.00 am Australian Electoral Officer (State Manager) Tasmania  
Australian Electoral Commission

10.30 am Global Data Company

11.30 am Registries Limited and Everyone Counts

12.15 pm Dr Vanessa Teague  
Computing Research and Education Association of Australasia