

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL MATTERS**

Public hearing: Inquiry into the 2007 election

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

Former WA Senator Andrew Murray to appear at parliamentary committee hearing in Perth

Recently retired Australian Democrats Senator Andrew Murray will give evidence to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters at a public hearing in Perth on Thursday 21 August 2008 as part of the committee's inquiry into the conduct of the 2007 election.

"Andrew Murray was a long serving member of the Electoral Matters Committee during his time in the Parliament," Committee Chair Daryl Melham said. The federal parliamentary committee will hear from a range of witnesses including the Australian Electoral Commission's state manager for Western Australia.

More than 1.3 million Western Australians were on the electoral roll for the 2007 Federal election, an increase of almost 75,600 (6.11 per cent) compared to the election in 2004. The rate of "early voting" in Western Australia increased 23 per cent at the 2007 election compared to 2004, slightly lower than the national average of 27 per cent.

The venue for the hearings is Meeting Room 2, Legislative Assembly Committee Office, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth. The hearing is open to the public.

Program for Thursday 21 August Legislative Assembly Committee Room, West Perth

9.15 am	Australian Electoral Officer (State Manager) Western Australia (Australian Electoral Commission)
10.00 am	Mr Andrew Murray, Australian Democrats
11.15 am	The Greens (WA)
11.45 am	Mr William Bowe
12.15 pm	Association for the Blind of WA (Guide Dogs WA)
12.45 pm	Council for the National Interest (WA)
1.15 pm	Close

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 or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/em>