

# SUBMISSION 166

Dear Mr Melham,

I am sorry my submission is late but I have only just come across the Committee report.

I wish to express my appreciation for the \*Electronic Voting Trial \*at the 2007 Federal election.

This is the first time I have been able to vote independently in my 62 years of life and I commend the Government for this initiative. I was able to select from the full methods of voting and to cast a vote in secrecy like an able bodied voter.

I did find the publicity for the trial was poor and should be improved upon. If the Commonwealth is not prepared to contact the visually impaired through its Centrelink data base, I feel it could run some public awareness campaign that others in the community would see and pass onto me.

I fear the New South Wales Government is not going to embrace this right for the visually impaired in the 2008 Local Government Election - uniformity in treatment is surely the right of the visually impaired in this century.

Looking forward to the continuation of this method of voting, Sincerely, Coral Arnold