

Submission to the Joint Select Committee on the Republic Referendum

1. To put to the people of Australia the question of replacing the Crown with a President, without also putting that the authority – Almighty God through the Coronation Oath – is to be removed, could be problem.
2. Although the selection of a president could provide a person of utmost integrity in that position, the people of Australia may prefer that a president must rely on Almighty God as promised in an oath, in the same way as the Crown has.
3. The current bills and proposed referendum fail in this for the people of Australia.
4. To put to the people of the states of Australia the question of replacing the Crown with a president, without all states agreeing that the Crown be removed from all constitutions, could be a problem.
5. Although the selection of a president replacing the Crown may be the will of a majority of electors and a majority of electors in a majority of states – that could change the Constitution – all states agreed to Federation under the Crown and the Constitution, and in future should all agree to the same authority, if the purpose of these bills is to succeed. See section 51(xxxviii) of the Constitution.
6. The current bills and proposed referendum fail in this for the people of the states of Australia.

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