

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters	
Submission No.	23
Date Received	8-3-05
Secretary	<i>[Signature]</i>

4.3.2005

Chairman,  
Federal Parliamentary Committee on Electoral Matters,  
Parliament House,  
Canberra, 2600,  
A.C.T.



Dear Sir,

I'm writing to say that I would like the policy of *compulsory voting* retained. If there is a perceived lack of interest in government amongst the public then more civics education should be introduced in the schools, so young people growing up will understand the importance of it. It is a right which shouldn't be taken away from us. In countries where it is not compulsory and only half the eligible voters turn out, the governments are not elected properly, as far as I'm concerned. On the other hand in countries with dictatorships people would love the right to vote.

Also many people now register to vote when an election is called, or tell the AEC of their change of address. Maybe young people should be encouraged to enroll to vote in their civics education classes, but in the meantime I think it would not be fair to close the rolls the day the election is announced. This is taking away people's right to vote and I strongly object to the proposal. My family agrees with me.

Yours faithfully,