

From: Angela Wales Kirgo

Message:

To: The Inquiry Secretary, Ms Samantha Mannette, JSCEM

Dear Ms Mannette,

Please accept this submission for the JSCEM's Inquiry into the 2010 Federal Election.

I am an Australian citizen living in the USA, and a graduate of the University of Sydney.

I have been living outside Australia since 1990.

I am not currently on the Commonwealth electoral roll, although I visit Australia regularly and follow politics there closely. I also continue to own property in Australia and plan to return there when I retire.

My experiences with the Australian federal electoral system while offshore are as follows: I was able to vote, via the local Consulate, for the first three years here. Since then I have been unable to vote due to rules disenfranchising citizens who have not been resident in Australia for the previous three years.

As a politically engaged person, I would love to be able to vote in Australian elections. But current rules will not allow me to do so. It would be great to see the rules altered so that expatriates may vote.

Angela Wales Kirgo