



Roundtable discussion on enrolling electors legislation

The Electoral Matters Committee will hold a roundtable public hearing on Wednesday, 29 February 2012, in Canberra for its inquiry into the Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Protecting Elector Participation) Bill 2012 (the Bill).

The major focus of the Bill is to extend the Australian Electoral Commission's (AEC) enrolment functions. The AEC will be able to enrol eligible persons based on data received from third parties sources such as Centrelink and road and traffic authorities.

How declaration votes are treated will also change, providing the AEC with more flexibility to count these votes when a person has been removed from the roll by the objection process.

This Bill gives effect to recommendations 1 and 24 in the committee's report entitled *The 2010 Federal Election: Report on the conduct of the election and related matters*.

Submitters to the inquiry were generally supportive of the proposed changes. However, the Australian Privacy Foundation is opposed to the Bill.

"This roundtable discussion will provide the committee with an opportunity to examine some of the key issues" said Committee Chair, Mr Daryl Melham MP.

Roundtable Public Hearing program
Wednesday, 29 February 2012
Committee Room 2S1
Parliament House, Canberra

9.30 am Australian Electoral Commission
 Australian Privacy Foundation
 Democratic Audit of Australia

11.00 am Finish

The hearing will be webcast live: [http://www.aph.gov.au/News and Events/Watch Parliament](http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament)

For submissions, more information and to follow the progress of the inquiry visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/em>.

For media comment: Please contact the Committee Chair, Daryl Melham MP on 02 6277 2054 (Parliament House office) or 02 9774 2111 (Electoral office).

For general information: Contact the secretariat on 02 6277 2374 or jscem@aph.gov.au.