



15 February, 2013

Dear Senators,

I hereby express My Will that you abandon the notion of a referendum on Constitutional recognition of local government and direct financial support based on the results of 1974 and 1988 referendums which you are all aware of.

Reading the proof transcript, I must say how I am very much aggrieved of many of the comments therein with the exception of Prof. Ann Twomey, who so eloquently and accurately presented and explained, in short, the two level of governments - a federal government and state government.

Furthermore, it is of great concern when a Witness refers to the Constituents in a very derogatory manner based on unsubstantiated claims. I reject the collusion as to how to achieve a Yes vote. Also, the mere suggestion of discussing the aspects of “ a bi-partisan approach” for elected political parties is not ethical. On this basis alone, I instruct this referendum to be absolved immediately.

Reference: HANSARD 1-2-1898 – Constitution Convention Debates

Quote

Because, as has been said before, it is (start page 357) necessary that not only that the administration of justice should be pure and above suspicion, but that it should be beyond the possibility of suspicion. Unquote Mr. O’Connor NSW

Although this excerpt is in relation to “justice” – I would like to entertain you with the thought that many of the comments in the Proof Transcript can be taken to be suspicious in order to get a “Yes” vote.

In summary, I would agree that the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution should be taught in schools and the government should have classes to teach the adult Constituents. Today, I spoke to three elected councillors in my municipal district who informed me that their knowledge of the Constitution is poor, and the relationship with the State Constitution.

It would also appear from the onset of investigation of a proposed referendum on Constitution recognition of Local Government and direct financial by the Commonwealth has been a waste of tax payer’s money based on the abovementioned referendums which conveys to me that the elected representatives need Constitutional education.

So, help me God

M. Smyrnis

Terms of Reference

1. a Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition of Local Government be appointed to inquire into and report on the majority finding (financial recognition) of the [Expert Panel](#) on Constitutional Recognition of Local Government including by amending section 96 of the Constitution, and in conducting its inquiry, the Committee will assess the likelihood of success of a referendum on financial recognition, and will take into account the following matters:
 1. the report of the Expert Panel on constitutional recognition of Local Government, including preconditions set by the [Expert Panel](#) for the holding of a referendum;
 2. the level of State and Territory support;
 3. the potential consequences for Local Government, States and Territories of such an amendment; and
 4. any other matters that the Committee considers may be relevant to a decision on whether to conduct a referendum, and the timing of any referendum.