

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2014-15

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Electoral Commission
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Evidence of voter identity at polling

Senator: Smith

Question reference number: F46

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 122, 24 February 2015

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 10 April 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator SMITH: You say 'evidence of identity'; others would know that as voter ID.

Mr Rogers: That is correct. I spoke to the Electoral Commission of Queensland today. What I saw in the polling places I visited was that that process ran very smoothly. We would have to check with the AFP that the simple introduction of evidence of identity cured the issue we are talking about.

Answer:

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) made a submission to the inquiry by the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters into all aspects of the conduct of the 2010 Federal election. In submission number 105, the AFP outlined some of the problems with investigating and prosecuting multiple voting offences and made several recommendations to address evidential gaps. Amongst these recommendations was to request photographic identification from an elector prior to voting. Evidence of identity at the time of voting is one element that could address the problems identified by the AFP.

Submission 105 can be located as follows:

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=em/elect10/subs.htm