

As a taxpayer, and the employer of parliamentarians and owner of the ABC,
I demand that the government be accountable and leave the current arrangement of
having ABC staff member representation on the ABC Board.

Removing staff representatives from the ABC Board will seriously compromise the
ABC's impartiality and independence. With the ABC being the only large media
outlet in Australia that is not privately owned, I believe removing staff representatives
from the ABC Board could damage Australian citizens freedom of speech and access
to unbiased and impartial news coverage.

Removal of staff representation from the ABC Board could further contribute to the
eroding of civil liberties that has occurred in Australia in the last decade under the
current Federal Government and threaten the democratic process that is meant to be at
the heart of Australian contemporary life.

Jane Fisher