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To: fpa.sen@aph.gov.au

Subject: Fw: Submission - Gold Travel Pass

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Submission on Politicians Gold Pass - 2002

Politicians should pay for their own personal travel including ex-Prime Ministers and their spouses, we have too many still travelling around at public expense, mostly shadowing election campaigns.

Do we pay for them to be on our televisions forever?

Under GATS we could import politicians who would work for peanuts and do far more for the Australian community - we don't need Australian born politicians we could import them.

Some politicians claim to achieve many things for their fellow citizens while in parliament, yet when the public is asked to list these achievements few can find anything to credit the politician with - except pain items that everyone hates and dislikes, people have long memories even if politicians think memories lapse after a short time (between elections).

Government is no longer responsive to the needs of the

people, when pressed by public and media campaigns to pull it out, politicians put it back in again.

Currently public reform items are mostly to counteract bad government legislation, which is what we mostly have today in 2002.

**Why does it take so long to find there is a problem?
One could also ask why it takes so long to find a solution?**

Most problems occur through government messing with things it should leave alone and working, if not for the sick aspect of control.

We have had 2 ex-Prime Ministers apologise to the public after leaving or being kicked out of office for bad or rotten public policy.

Then there is one who tried to make a little bull appear bigger, makes one wonder if the bigger bull was used on the public while he was in office.

Most politicians go into parliament with a modest bank account and leave as a millionaire through their generous publicly paid superannuation.

Why should politicians be given a gold travel pass?

Politicians should pay as users do from their own pockets, every other bugger in the country has to pay - users pay.

They elected to represent the public, they should do so from their own pocket not for perks of office, it should be an honour not a privilege.

Some politicians fail mathematics at high school yet have been in control of the economy, others fail in their portfolio responsibilities yet they clock up considerable time of failure before being moved and we give them a gold pass!

How stupid is that?

Politicians lead us into wars but won't deliver us from their evil yet do not send their own family members, another kind of evil, most wars are concocted with propaganda or lies to hide the ulterior motive, millions die sometimes for a lie or a peception at the time which sometimes turns out, years later as a world organised crime.

Lack of forward thinking.

"By the time they (the public) find out i'll be dead and long gone - not good enough - hand over the gold pass now".

What was the difference with capitalism and communism, was it money and ownership?

Many Australians have that problem today but its capitalism, yes rampant capitalism, does that make you feel good or what?

So you want a gold pass - do you deserve it.

The whole political process in this country needs a re-structure and politicians must be made personally accountable for their actions and resign.

The public should hold forums in all major cities to formulate public standards for electing individual politicians to office.

Publicly initiated referendums must also be canvassed by the public and put on the agenda for the publics right to change policies where they cause harm or to stop a process sucking and wasting taxpayers money, so the money can be diverted to more needy policy areas.

Politicians spend up with our money, they would not spend their own money so recklessly.

These forums should include an I.Q. test for testing candidates on general knowlege and policy areas to judge whether a candidate has the right qualifications.

Where a politician has failed maths or any other subject he or she should not be singled out in I.Q. testing but it should be noted.

Tests could be conducted over the life term of the parliament in public forums.

Scores could be published in the major newspapers on a regular basis and a summary published prior to an election.

This would allow quality candidates to be sourced and place every prospective politician on equal and just terms under the constitution of Australia.

This would also help stamp out political party grooming of dud candidates and "yes" persons.

The public (taxpayers) should have a right to determine politicians perks of office not the other way around.

Australia needs the best, brightest and fairest politicians elected as a governing body not just people who look good or well groomed and nothing else between no mean and tricky types.

Australia has been slipping backward to the point of third world status in most policy areas from where we once, were priveleged - we can't blame ourselves individually as we have to survive changes forced upon us but we must blame our leaders - sorry but its true.

Politicians cannot blame the unions for our declining standards as the unions have been muzzled since the 1980's.

Could it be privatisation and de-regulation and economic rationalism?

Federal Parliament has degenerated into a king of kindy school, where nothing positive is debated anymore, theatrics for the cameras, comedians and laughter, affairs to remember, we pay big money for this and the perks.

Politicians who are elected to parliament as a member of a political party and resign from that party should be forced to leave the parliament from the time they quit the party.

How can the public trust them when they have broken a promise to those that elected them in pre-selection tests for the party.

The public votes for the party in most cases not individual names.

This loophole ability applies no where else in society, if you resign from a public committee you cannot go into a meeting as an independent.

If you resign from a company you cannot go back to work and work.

This loop hole needs to be eliminated from all parliaments

along with the perk gold pass.

**This would force all politicians to last their elected terms
except for illness maybe.**

Regards

Ken Lawson

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