



TRUE BLUE LABOR

CARRINGTON GROUP



24A Robertson Street,
Carrington NSW 2294
5th February, 2009
PHONE 02/49611901

The Secretary,
Finance and Public Administration Committee,
Parliament House,
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to advise that a meeting of the above Group, held on Sunday, 1st February, 2009, the following resolution was unanimously adopted, namely,

"That True Blue Labor expresses complete opposition to the proposed Private Member's Bill, submitted in the Senate by Green's Senate Leader, Senator Bob Brown, on the 11th November, 2008 and entitled "Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Act 2008".

The Bill has not been fully debated, however, on the 13th November, 2008, the Senate referred the Bill to the Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration for inquiry and report by the 15th June, 2009.

If a Private Member's Bill is not at the instigation of a government, it will normally run its course and die a natural death, however, if a government wishes to proceed on a matter, but not as the Government, it will support a Private Member's Bill. This was the case with the Private Member's Bill in NSW, entitled "Constitution Amendment L

(Pledge of Loyalty) Bill 2006, which removed the Oath of Allegiance to The Queen, for members of the NSW State Parliament, and is clearly the case with Senator Brown's Bill.

(I might mention here, that I, the writer, was a New South Wales Member of Parliament and Govt. Whip, and served as a member from 1968-1988.)

With a Plebiscite, the smaller states are not protected as they are in a Referendum. For a Referendum to pass, it must be approved by a National majority and also by a majority in at least four states. In the Referendum held in 1999, every state and 72% electorates voted against the republicans preferred model.

My members trust that your Committee will discourage Senator Brown and his supporters, and guide them to adhere to the 1999 Referendum decision of support for the Monarchy and the rejection of a republic.

With kind regards and best wishes,

Yours Sincerely,

Arthur Wade

Secretary.