

1 February 2009

The Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

RE PROPOSED PLEBISCITE ON A REPUBLIC

Please consider this submission as an objection to Senator Brown's Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008.

- ◆ Australia has a lot more pressing matters to attend to in this current economic climate and there will be no benefit to the person in the street and shouldn't even be on the agenda.
- ◆ The cost of the proposed Plebiscite would be prohibitive and better spent on running an improved health or education system for our citizens.
- ◆ The top five countries in the world considered to be the most desirable place to live, one of which is Australia, all have monarchies.
- ◆ The Westminster system is a very safe system of government.
- ◆ The plebiscite asks people to reject the present Constitution without knowing what will replace it. If passed there would be a time of constitutional instability.
- ◆ Just because a few republicans seem to suffer from a cultural cringe about the beginnings of this great nation shouldn't be reason enough to change what we already have – a wonderful country and lifestyle
- ◆ Many people have sought refuge in our country after experiencing life in a republic and enjoy the safety of our Westminster system.
- ◆ I lived in a republic for seven years and it can be frightening to experience the resultant chaos that can result in the name of a 'President'.
- ◆ The previous 1999 referendum, with an overwhelming "NO" vote, should be lesson enough, after all the millions of dollars that was spent on what could only be described as a fiasco.
- ◆ **There is not a republic on earth that is better than Australia!**

Yours faithfully

Peggy Stransky