

The Secretary,
Finance & Public Administration Committee,
Parliament House,

Canberra, ACT 2600

2/2/09

As a supporter of our Constitution and our flag, I must protest the Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008.

There is only one way to change the Constitution. This is a referendum. So why isn't it being used?

As details of the proposed republic are being kept secret, surely we should know what is being planned before we vote.

This plebiscite invites people to reject the existing constitution without knowing what is to be put in its place. This is incompatible with the 1999 referendum when the people knew about the republicans' preferred model, and then rejected it by a 72% majority.

I believe a plebiscite is underhanded and devious.

As a point of interest; Napoleon used plebiscites in sham elections to justify his hold on conquered countries in (1780-1800) in Europe.

If this situation is inflicted on us, will it take another Duke of Wellington to free us?