

28th January 2009

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

Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008

I am responding to the invitation to make a submission on this forthcoming Bill and wish to put the following to the committee for their consideration.

1. Will the nation be given a clear agenda of what will take place and how this plebiscite will be worded.
2. Will there be a period of education to understand exactly what is and how our present Constitution works as well as be fully briefed of the changes and how they will work.
3. Will there be equal funding for the YES and NO arguments,
4. Will there be a clear cut alternative model put forward before the Plebiscite to allow a sense of stability that this Plebiscite could cause.
5. Will there be a consideration that the only truthful method of changing the Constitution is by Referendum and that even with a plebiscite it may be wasted time and money, as its decision can be challenged.
6. Will there be a consideration taken to the costs involved in this mammoth task of the funding that could be used for more vital uses at this time of dire financial uncertainty.
7. Finally, how will this make our lives better and more stable considering the fact we are presently directly linked by a common head to Nations such as New Zealand, Canada and United Kingdom. How will this severance better our lives.

I thank you for this opportunity to submit my concerns and ask that this submission be receipted.

Yours sincerely