

Anne Fisher

The Hon. Senator Margaret
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The Secretary
Finance and Public Administration Committee
Parliament House Canberra
Via Facsimile

PLEBISCITE FOR AUSTRALIAN REPUBLIC BILL, 2008

I apologise for my late submission on this important matter.

Regarding the proposal for a plebiscite instead of a referendum, since you must give full details for a referendum- why not give them now?

I am very concerned that we are being kept in the dark regarding a proposed model for change. Surely all Australians are owed the obligation to be fully informed and respected by voting through a referendum instead of a plebiscite.

If a referendum was used previously why change it now? Also I and many other Australians voted on this matter already and little has changed so why force this upon us again at great expense and angst?

There are protective mechanisms in a referendum against that of a plebiscite, this matter fundamentally requires the protective mechanisms of a referendum not that of a plebiscite.

I am concerned that this matter is being pushed as a single issue against broader issues that are of concern to all Australians, such as the economy, health and security. I would implore our Parliamentarians to focus on this not divisive clandestine changes to our system of governance.

Please keep my postal, phone number and address confidential.

ANNIE FISHER