

The Standing Committee of Finance and Public Administration,  
The Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee

I Believe a Private Members Bill was recently introduced to Parliament entitled "Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Act 2008".

I would like to place a submission before your committee in relation to this Bill. In 1999 the Australian people voted in a referendum in relation to the Australian Republic and the result was a resounding "NO". It appears the Media and Politicians do not accept this decision and as a result now intend to try again by the back door. We are aware that a Plebiscite will only require a vote of 50% plus one, whereas a referendum under the constitution requires a greater number of votes plus a majority of States to succeed. The object of this exercise is to get a vote of 50% +1 and then have a referendum asking the people what type of republic you would prefer. This is nothing but a push by Politicians to place themselves further above the people they are supposed to represent. One can only view this proposal as treachery!

Those Members of Parliament who continue to push for a republic and betray their oath of office, could be viewed in some quarters as being guilty of treason!

Perhaps your committee would like to list the advantages that would flow on to all Australians from Australia becoming a republic? I am unable to come up with a single advantage to me, so one can only suspect that the advantages would only be of benefit to Politicians and the media. The Politicians because it would give them more power and the media because any change is a good story!

The Crown is supposed to be the peoples protection from the desires of oppressive Governments, therefor the removal of the Governor General and the State Governors opens the door for Dictatorships. Take a look at Zimbabwe!

The Australian people have managed for a period in excess of 100 years with the present system of Government, the result of which is the most stable country in the world today, despite some short comings, we "The People" still have some say in how we are ruled and do have the opportunity to kick out bad governments.

I am unaware of any push for a Republic by the people, and therefor believe this Plebiscite is only being pushed by those who wish to satisfy their own self interests. There will be no benefits to the Australian People not to mention the costs involved.

I urge the committee to accept the decision made by the people in 1999, and concentrate on the numerous other more important problems facing our country

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