

Committee Secretary
Finance and Public Administration Committee
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

RE: Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008

Dear Sir,

I wish to take this opportunity to voice my objection to the abovementioned bill. A referendum on the republic issue was held in 1999 at great expense, and it was clear at the time that every state of the commonwealth and 72% of electorates said "no". Don't the powers that be understand that "no" means "no"?

Why now do we face the prospect of a plebiscite which will not only incur huge cost but invites the people of Australia to reject our existing and undoubtedly successful constitution without knowing what exactly will replace it?

Many people don't know what a plebiscite is, but one thing is certain...it will lead to confusion, misinterpretation, instability and massive cost. It could also lead to other knock on effects like the changing of the current flag which would be an insult to many Australians, young and old.

Once again, I would like to make it clear I am 100% opposed to this plebiscite, and I find it hard to believe that people in power are contemplating this divisive issue when we have just celebrated our most united and wonderful Australia Day ever.

Yours sincerely,
Ben Zoffman.

6th February, 2009.