

This is a response to Senator Bob Brown's proposal for a plebiscite on the proposed "Australian Republic". I understand that submissions must be received by February 6, 2009.

I object very strongly to this proposed plebiscite.

In a time of financial uncertainty it is irresponsible to spend public money on an issue where the people decided a decade ago that they do not want a republic in Australia.

The people overwhelmingly said NO in 1999. What part of NO does Senator Brown not understand?

This proposal does not state what form the proposed republic would take. The people are being asked to vote on an unknown constitutional change.

Further, this proposed plebiscite cannot decide anything, even in the unlikely event that it is passed. A plebiscite is not legally binding. By law only a referendum can change the constitution and the referendum has been held and the result was quite clear. I object to spending further public money on an issue decided long ago.

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