

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

Re. The Private Member's Bill called "Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Act 2008".

I submit that a Plebiscite asking the question "Do you support Australia becoming a republic? Is totally un-necessary for the following reasons:-

1. The question was put to a referendum in 1999 and defeated in all States and nationally.
2. There is no popular demand to change our constitution in this way.
3. The estimated cost of \$10 M plus is unwise expenditure at a time of financial stress.
4. A Plebiscite is advisory only; the proper way to change the constitution is by Section 128 where the question is put in detail so people can see exactly what they are voting for.
5. I certainly do not want to have to go through the process we have just seen in the USA with massive funds being spent on the contenders' campaigns.
6. Australia changed its Head of State last year with a minimum of fuss and expense.  
Why make things more complicated?

Yours sincerely,

D.J. Auchterlonie.