

Hon Dr Bob Such MP  
Member for Fisher

27 January 2009

Committee Secretary  
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Committee Secretary

**Inquiry into the Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008**

I respond to the invitation to provide a submission to the Inquiry into the Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008 and offer the following suggestions.

I believe that the Government should act decisively and initiate the legal process necessary for Australia to become a republic. Failing such immediate action by the Government, I would support a plebiscite for an Australian Republic but would also suggest canvassing the Australian people as to their preferred method of selecting a President, as well as their preferred role of a President, ie

- Largely symbolic, or
- As an Executive Officer, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces with power to act, etc.

The plebiscite should also ask whether the President of Australia should be selected:

- By a majority of a joint sitting of Federal Parliament, or
- By direct vote.

Yours sincerely

Bob Such MP JP  
**Member for Fisher**