

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)
Subject: Electoral and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015
Date: Wednesday, 8 April 2015 4:42:56 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

To the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Submission on the Electoral and Other Legislation Bill 2015

It has come to my attention that you are considering altering the aforementioned Bill so that voters no longer need to provide personal identification before obtaining their ballot paper at Queensland elections. This would deal a serious blow to efforts to combat any possibility of voting irregularities, or even a perception of irregularities. I am at a loss to understand why any politician would, in our political climate, seek to reverse a measure of accountability that would try to ensure that cheating does not occur. I am deeply concerned that a government (or opposition) in a “hung” parliament such as ours would make one of its first items of business the removal of accountability of people to identify themselves as genuine, registered voters when presenting to receive their ballot paper.

Please retain the current requirement for voters to provide proof of identity before casting their vote. It is not an onerous measure as registered voters receive postal confirmation of their status for presentation at the voting location. In rare circumstances a few may forget their letter of confirmation and, in my experience the lazy, indifferent and will disregard the letter. However, the electoral fraudster will not want a requirement to produce personal identification.

Our communities are widely infected by acts of fraud and misrepresentation every day. We cannot conduct much of our day to day business without providing evidence to identify ourselves – often photographic identification. I am not able to be convinced that political parties and “pressure groups” are above acts of electoral fraud and skulduggery in seeking to gain an advantage.

This requirement is widely accepted by the community, and is needed to ensure the integrity of the electoral system by minimising the possibility of voter fraud.

Again, I implore the Committee: please retain the current requirement for voters to provide proof of identity before casting their vote.

With respect.

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