

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)
Cc: thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au; [Burnett Electorate Office](#); [Southern Downs Electorate Office](#); [Nanango Electorate Office](#); [Mount Isa Electorate Office](#); [Dalrymple Electorate Office](#); [Nicklin Electorate Office](#)
Subject: Amendments to voting laws
Date: Thursday, 9 April 2015 7:31:04 PM

Dear Members of Parliament

We wish to voice our objections to the proposals to

- *reinstate the \$1000 gift threshold amount, backdated to 21 November 2013;
- *remove voter proof of identity requirements; and
- *remove voter proof of identity requirements for local government elections.

With regard to the \$1000 gift threshold amount, we believe that it is not the business of any government to know the political leanings of individuals by way of investigating small donations to political parties, regardless of the parties concerned. Such knowledge in the hands of a corrupt government could lead to persecution of those who they believe are not their supporters and such a situation cannot be allowed to take place in Australia or Queensland because of the implied threat to voter confidentiality and security. We have secret ballots in Queensland as a measure of protection for voters of all political persuasions from political discrimination by those in power. We believe this would undermine many voters' rights to secrecy.

Considering Proof of Identity is important for any number of actions in our society such as obtaining a learner or other driver licence, entering licenced premises, opening a bank account and any other activity involving government departments, we can only question the morality and motive behind seeking to remove the requirements to show proof of identity when engaging in the most important activity protecting our democracy in Queensland - voting for an democratically elected government. We believe that in the hands of a corrupt government, such legislation would remove the people's ability to remove said government from power by due democratic process. Removing the requirement to show proof of identity would create difficulty in identifying and punishing electoral fraud.

Under the Beattie government, one of us (Margaret) received letters asking her to show cause why she had voted twice when in fact she had not. That was voting without any requirement for showing proof of identity. How many others in Queensland also had the same experience?

We believe that showing voter proof of identity in any election adds transparency to the election process.

This legislation must not be passed. We believe such legislation places our democratic system of government in jeopardy.

Respectfully yours

Graham and Margaret Stevenson

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