

**From:** [Angela Gabrielle Wade-Steiner](#)  
**To:** [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Proposed changes to voting laws  
**Date:** Wednesday, 15 January 2014 9:29:33 PM

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Personally I don't believe that voting in an election should be compulsory. There are only (as far as I am aware) three countries in the world where voting is compulsory. However it is a democratic right to vote or indeed not to vote. Therefore it follows that it should be made as easy as possible for people to exercise their right to vote. To introduce laws which will make voting harder can only lead to the disenfranchisement of some people to exercise their right.

Suppose you don't have a driving licence, or a permanent address? It's not a crime to be too poor to have a permanent address, or to live in a remote area or to be disabled, these are the people most likely to be disadvantaged by the introduction of this proposed law.

I believe voter impersonation is unlikely. There doesn't seem to be any evidence that a new law will stop it. Casting your vote isn't a lot of fun and standing in a queue waiting to vote will take longer as someone will have to check your ID. Also it will add to the cost of the election as someone will have to inspect the ID's.

Yours sincerely  
AGM Wade-Steiner

Angela Gabrielle Wade-Steiner  
