

**From:** [Lorna Huston](#)  
**To:** [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Requiring Identification at the Polls  
**Date:** Thursday, 16 January 2014 6:38:23 AM

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I'm writing the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee to voice my objection and specific concerns about the proposal to require identification of voters at polling stations.

Australia and the AEC have gone to great lengths to ensure every eligible voter can vote. I'd suggest that before introducing tougher requirements, we should ascertain the nature and scale of any problem these measures are meant to address so we can weigh the costs versus the benefits of any changes.

I'd like to point out that the proposed measures would affect specific groups unduly and disproportionately: indigenous Australians, youth and the aged will have greater difficulty producing ID than others. A large percentage of Indigenous Australians don't have drivers' licences.

And finally, the proposed laws would mean even longer queues at polling stations.

I ask you to please reject these ill-advised proposals.

Lorna Huston

