

**From:** [Kevin Skinner-smith](#)  
**To:** [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)  
**Subject:** The Electoral Reform Amendment Bill is a waste of public money.  
**Date:** Thursday, 16 January 2014 7:44:26 AM

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In a free and fair democracy as many people must be free to vote as possible. Governments have a responsibility to make it easy for people to vote.

Can the committee guarantee that these laws won't lead to voter disenfranchisement?.

In a free and fair democracy all people must have an equal opportunity to vote. The proposed laws could have discriminatory effects on who is, and who isn't, able to vote - and the worst impact will likely be on those who live in remote communities, those who are elderly, young, disabled, homeless, or just move house frequently.

Does the Committee know what percentage of people from these groups may not be able to cast a vote if the laws are introduced?

The proposed laws would waste the people of Queensland's time and money. The onerous process of checking everyone's IDs will make lines to vote longer and put people off of voting at all.

The staff required to do this will cost more money.

The Attorney-General claims these laws will reduce 'voter impersonation' but there is no evidence that these proposals will actually reduce it, or that voter impersonation has ever made a difference in any election.

To me these changes will make it more difficult to vote by making the waiting times longer thus putting people, especially the elderly, young people and impaired people off of voting at all: And worse the cost implications of doing these checks will be vast.

These changes will achieve nothing but deterring people from voting and the costs will be a waste of public money.

Kevin Skinner-smith

